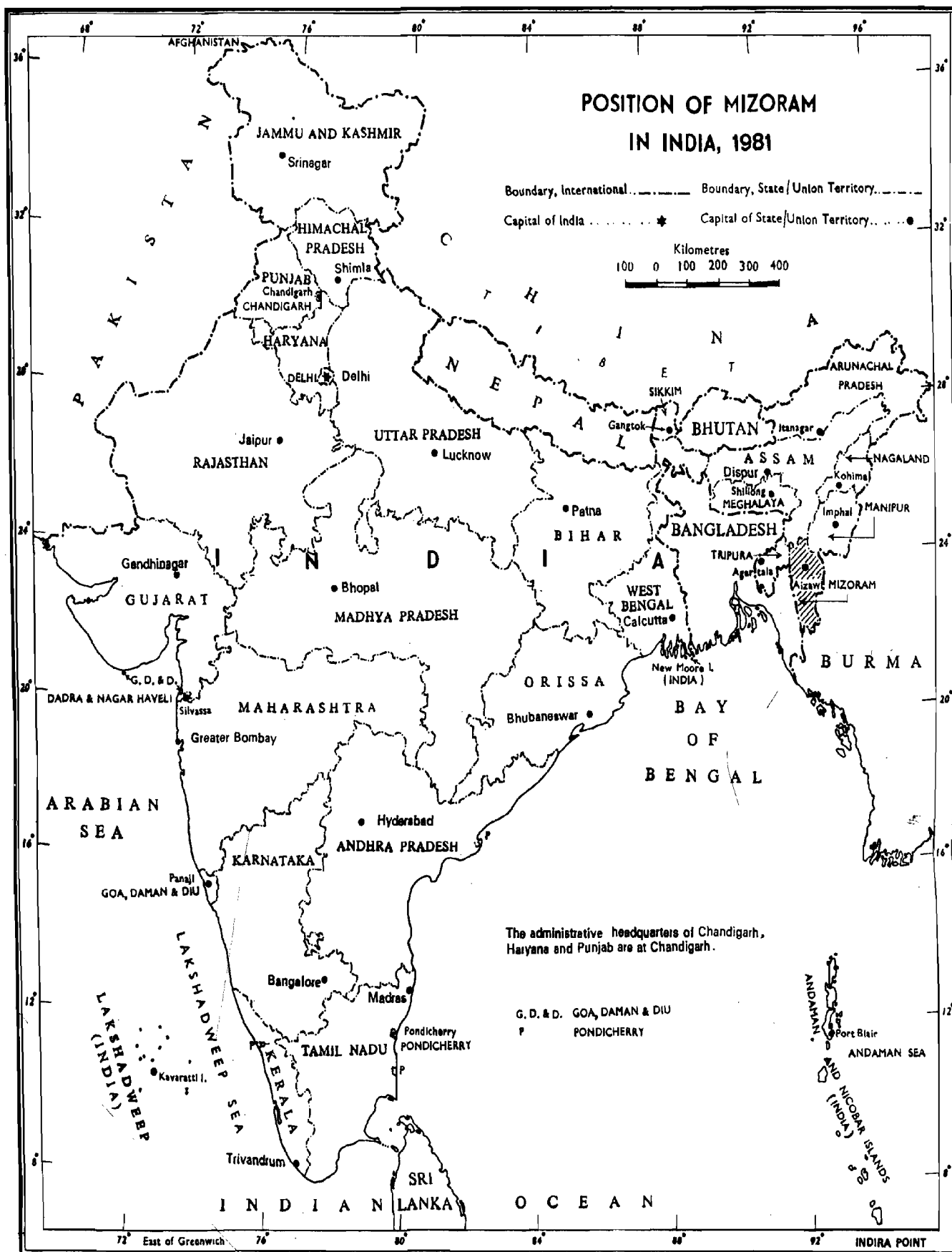




CENSUS OF INDIA 1981

**A
PORTRAIT
OF
POPULATION**

MIZORAM



Based upon Survey of India map with the permission of the Surveyor General of India.
The territorial waters of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles measured from the appropriate base line.

The boundary of Meghalaya shown on this map is as interpreted from the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971, but has yet to be verified.

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FOREWARD

The Indian Census is now more than hundred years of age. Synchronous decennial Censuses have been taken in an unbroken sequence since 1871.

Each Census has been yielding vast quantities of data concerning the various facets of the life of the people. It is only natural that over the decades the sweep as well as the depth of the information yielded by the Census have gone on increasing. Of course, no exercise of this type and magnitude, can yield all that one may desire to know in all areas of enquiry. Within this limitation, however, the data thrown up by the Census constitute, verily, a mine of information which enter into plans and programmes, debates and writings, affecting almost all walks of the life of the common Indian.

And yet, for the common reader, this information and the large number of publications carrying it, remains, by and large, a distant, uninteresting, even intimidating, corpus.

At the time of the 1971 Census was, therefore, conceived the idea of bringing the essential Census information together in handy and readable volumes with such lay and average readers and students in view. This 1981 Census series of State/UT-wise "Portrait of Population" follows up the similar 1971 Census series.

It will be realized that it is not easy to convert dry facts and statistics into flowing narration. Very few indeed can be gifted with the talent of a Jawaharlal Nehru or a C. Rajagopalachari or a Hendrik W Van Loon or a Minoo Masani for writing about history or mythology or economics in an absorbing, story-telling style. It has also to be appreciated that my colleagues have undertaken this work in the midst of a very mindane and busy office routine.

(ii)

I thank them and all those who have collaborated with them in this project and hope that these volumes will serve their intended purpose. The credit for getting the 1981 Census conducted and for getting all the data garnered and put through the initial processing in the first instance goes, of course, to my illustrious predecessor, Shri P. Padmanabha and the very able band of Directors of Census Operations for that Census.

VIJAY S. VERMA,
Registrar General, India

NEW DELHI

July, 4, 1988

PREFACE

One of the novel features of the Census Publications is the attempt to bring out the present volume to cater to the growing need for the basic data collected during 1981 Census. Indian Census is a mine of informations. But the general readers including students hardly derive any benefit from the forbiddingly voluminous census reports and tables. It is with a view to catering for this group of readers that this little volume 'A portrait of population' has been prepared. It has been written in a simple and non-technical language.

It was late Shri A. Chandra Sekhar, former Registrar General & Census Commissioner of 1971 Census who first gave an idea of bringing out 'Portrait of Population' for each state/U.T. at the time of 1971 Census. Encouraged by the response of general readers to that publication it has been desired by Shri V. S. Verma, Registrar General, India to revive this publication at the 1981 Census also.

The Director of Census Operations, Shri P. Lalnithanga, I.A.S. under whose guidance the entire operations were carried out deserves all credit for the success of the operations. But he had to leave the Organisation for taking up important assignment before the volume in question could be made ready for the Press. I must record my deepest sense of gratitude to Shri P. Padmanabha, Ex-Registrar General, India and Shri V. S. Verma, Registrar General, India for their valuable guidance and sincere help to us at every stage to bring out this publication in time. I also thank the officers and staff of the Data Processing Division, Census Division and Printing Division of the Office of the Registrar General, India associated with this task. The Processing of the data was undertaken by the Data Processing Division of the Registrar General's Office under the able guidance of S/Shri A. Sen Gupta, Joint Director (Data Processing), K. R. Unni, Joint Director (Programming) with the help of their staff.

(iv)

I thank Shri N. Rama Rao, Asstt. Registrar General (C & T) and his colleagues S/Shri R. P. Tomar and V. P. Rustagi, Deputy Directors and Babu Lal, Asstt. Director who have taken great pains to go through the draft and suggested various changes in the write-up.

I am also grateful to my office colleagues who have laboured hard to bring out this publication particularly Shri Lalhmingthanga, Statistical Asstt. who has done his best to prepare the write-up. The tables and statements contained in this publication were prepared by him under the guidance of Shri Lalbiakthuama, former Dy. Director. Later on this report has been scrutinized by me in the light of comments from the Census Division of the office of the Registrar General, India. The charts, diagrams, maps etc. were prepared by Shri Lalnghinglova, Draftsman. The burnt of typing the manuscript and the tables fell on the shoulders of Smt. R. Lalnghakhleli, U.D.C. and Shri P.C. Zirthingmawia, L.D.C. I express my deep sense of gratitude to all of them and to many others in my office who gave unstinted cooperation in this venture.

B. SATYANARAYANA

PLACE: AIZAWL

Dy. Director of Census Operations,

Date : 10 Aug. 1988.

Mizoram, Aizawl.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The 'Portrait of Population' as the name suggests, presents a simple version of the population of Mizoram as revealed by the 1981 Census. Preparation of such kind of book in the form of popular version is mainly intended to meet the requirements of high school and under graduate students, public men and those in charge of Local Administration. Another object of this book is to bring to the average reader the demographic situation prevailing in this State. Though this book may not cater the needs of individual reader to have the detailed insight of demographic problems, but for average reader, we hope it will be quite useful considering the fact that an attempt has been made to concise the data presented in all the series of publications of the 1981 census.

Let us first understand what a population census is. The population census is an age old phenomenon and is known to have existed even before Jesus Christ came in flesh into this world, in the countries like Egypt, China, Rome, Babylon, etc. In the old Testament, there was reference to Census during Biblical times. In India, there exists evidence of conducting census in the book entitled "Arthashastra" written by the famous Kautilya who prescribed the collection of population statistics as a measure of State policy for the purpose of taxation. The great traveller Magasthenis also supported the writings of Kautilya. Thus it has been observed that the practice of periodic census taking in many countries for various purposes was not uncommon in ancient world.

The practice of early censuses dates back to ancient times. The objectives of the early censuses, however, were very limited. The ancient rulers conducted censuses mainly to determine the number of people who could be recruited for the army or who could pay taxes. But the scope and objective of Census changed radically with the advent of the modern welfare state. Meanwhile to many of us, a census is nothing more than a simple count of heads. But it is much more than that. Census also gathers from every person, a large number of personal informations like age, marital status, religion, literacy, mother tongue, economic activity and so on. We can broadly define

a population Census an administrative operation organised by Government to count the heads and to collect the various personal informations of every man, woman and child in a country with reference to a specified date.

The history of modern Census of India started with the establishment of British East India Company in India for the maximum exploitation of the human resources. In its ever expanding Indian settlements, the company was encouraged to take census specially for collection of revenue from taxes, etc. Though the Census of England had begun in the year 1801, but it took sometime to carry out systematic census for ascertaining the population of the dependencies and territories of the Empire. The foundation stone of modern census taking in British India was laid by 1867-1872 for a group of censuses known together as the Census of 1872. From the year 1881, the uniform and complete census of population was conducted throughout India providing the most complete and detailed demographic record for any comparable population. Though systematic taking of Census of population started from 1881, but it took a long way to arrive at the realistic path. Prior to 1941, conducting Census was synchronous one i.e., the census enumeration throughout the country was undertaken on a particular night excepting snowclad and inaccessible areas where census was taken at different periods. The one night operation of counting population with a large number of enumerators in a country like India was very difficult task for organisers. In order to avoid this difficulty from 1941, onwards, the methods of "Simultaneous" enumeration was given up and the enumeration was spread over a time. Since then a lot of improvement has been made in the census taking. Mizoram attained the status of Union Territory in 1972 and hence Census of 1981 in Mizoram was the first census operation undertaken independently by the Directorate of Census Operations, Mizoram. An Act called the Census Act, 1948, Act No. 37 of 1948 was enacted to provide for certain matters in connection with the taking of census. It guarantees that the information given by the respondent will be kept confidential and will only be utilised for statistical purpose. No person shall have a right to inspect any book, register or record made by a Census Officer in the discharge of his duty as such, or any schedule delivered under section 10 and notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, no entry in any such book, register, record or schedule shall be admissible as evidence in any civil proceeding whatsoever or

in any criminal proceeding other than a prosecution under this Act or any other law for any act or omission which constitutes an offence under this Act. Upto 1951, the Census organisation used to be set up on the eve of Census and was then wound up just after its completion and publication of reports. Now a permanent census organisation with its States/U.T. offices spread through out the country has been created after 1961 census.

The last census was taken with sun-rise of 1st March 1981, as the reference date. All population censuses are conducted with reference to a specified date known as the reference date. Obviously counting and collecting personal informations of millions of people of a country in one single day is an extremely difficult task. Therefore, a period of about three weeks preceding the reference date is fixed as the enumeration period. Although this entire period is used for enumeration, the data are collected in such a way that they relate to the reference date only. For instance, the enumeration period for the 1981 Census in our country was from the 9th February, 1981 to 28th February, 1981. During this period the Census workers throughout the country visited every household in their respective areas to record the Census informations. In order to relate the informations to the reference date of the 1st March 1981, the enumerators revisited all the households in their areas between the 1st March and the 5th March 1981. Necessary changes were made in their records for such births and deaths before calculating the population as on the 1st March, 1981. The houseless population (that is those who lived in open areas) however, was counted on the night of 28th February, 1981.

Even with sufficiently long period of enumeration counting every man, woman and child in a vast country like ours is a stupendous task. Thus Indian Census is considered to be the greatest administrative operation in the world. A good deal of planning, preparation and organisation is necessary to ensure proper coverage and accuracy in such a huge operation. The first preparatory step in a Census is to find out every human habitation whether a village or a town or a remote forest or hilly areas and then to locate every house in such habitations. For this purpose the Census of population is usually preceded by a housing census. A complete and exhaustive list of all towns and villages and other human settlements is first prepared. The villages, towns and other settlements are then formed into small areas called blocks, covering an average of 120—

150 households. A census worker, often a Primary School Teacher called enumerator, is placed incharge of each of such blocks. He goes around his block and prepares a detailed map showing location of all houses in it. He then paints a number on each house of his block. This procedure which is called house numbering is necessary to avoid any possible omission of a house in a block. Such housing census is conducted well before the final population count. In Mizoram this was conducted during September and October, 1960 as part of 1981 Census.

Prior to the formation of the Union Territory, the Mizoram was a part of Assam State, being one of the several Districts. In fact, Mizoram was known as Mizo District. It was the first time in history of Mizoram that census was conducted separately in the year, 1981. In the year, 1979 a separate census Directorate was set up in Mizoram headed by Director. Mizoram attained the status of State on the 20th February, 1987 and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Statehood. Thus Mizoram became the 23rd State in India. The next population census in 1991 will also be the first census in Mizoram after the formation of State, just as the 1981 census was the first census taken in Mizoram as Union Territory.

Hierarchy for the 1981 Census of this state consisted of the Director as the head assisted by the Assistant Director of Census Operations. For the purpose of enumeration all the Community Development Blocks in Mizoram were taken as Census charges in Rural areas and each town was made into one charge except in Aizawl which was divided into four charges. There were altogether 6 towns in the State. Thus, in all there were 29 charges in Mizoram, each one headed by a charge officer.

As many as 1,105 Enumeration Blocks were formed in the entire Mizoram during 1981 Census. Each enumeration block consisted of about 120 households in Urban areas and about 150 households in Rural areas. One enumeration block was allotted to one enumerator and 5 enumeration blocks constituted one Circle which were assigned to one Supervisor. Altogether, there were 215 Supervisory Circles, each under a Supervisor. Approximately some 1,500 officials, mostly drawn from Primary Teachers were appointed as enumerators and 250 High School Teachers and Middle School Headmasters were also appointed as Supervisors in most cases.

The following sequences of operations is followed in population census :—

- (1) Preparations for census taking
- (2) House numbering and House listing
- (3) Enumeration
- (4) Finalising Provisional results
- (5) Evaluation of census coverage and content
- (6) Data Processing
- (7) Analysis of results
- (8) Dissemination of results, and
- (9) Publication.

The Schedules for the 1981 Census comprised of (i) House-list, and (ii) Enterprise List at houselisting Operations, and during actual enumeration (i) Individual slip and (ii) Household Schedule. In addition to the above, a card was filled in for the degree holders and technical personnel. The schedules prescribed for 1981 Census were uniform throughout India. In respect of the houses, whether residential or not, the following particulars are recorded. Enterprise list was in fact a part of the Economic Census which was combined with the population Census at the instance of Central Statistical Organisation, Ministry of Planning, Government of India, New Delhi.

(1) Building number, (2) Censuns House Number, (3) Purpose for which Census house is used (of wholly or partly non-residential). In case, Census house is residential, the following additional particulars are collected—(1) Household number, (2) Name of head of household, (3) Whether the household engaged in enterprise within or outside the premises, (4) Number of residents (Sex wise), (5) Number of physically handicapped persons.

The main Schedule of the 1981 Census is the individual slip which is universally canvassed for every individual in the country. There are two kinds of individual slips such as 'Universal' and 'Sample'. The universal slip contains 16 questions and the sample slip contains 6 questions. The individual slip (Universal) was canvassed to all persons irrespective of Caste/Tribe but the individual slip (sample) was canvassed in 20% selected Blocks. In addition to the above Schedules, the

enumerators also prepared an abstract called Enumerator's Abstract. From this abstract one could clearly know the main characteristics of a particular block.

Thus this small book entitled 'portrait of population' contains basic characteristics of the population of Mizoram such as the size of population, its distribution, growth rate, density, age composition, sex ratio, literacy, language usually spoken in the household, religion, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and broad economic activity of the population, etc. as revealed by the 1981 Census. All the above aspects of our population will be discussed in the following Chapters.

CHAPTER 2

HOW MANY ARE WE ?

Now we know something about Census taking in this Country and why we go about counting our people once in every ten years. According to the last population count in 1981, there are 685,184,692 people in various parts of India. The population count of 1981 Census of Mizoram reveals that there are 493,757 people in Mizoram which constitutes only 0.07% of the total population of India.

Mizoram is one of the smallest Union Territories in the Union of India, occupying the 26th position in regard to population. Our neighbouring States like Meghalaya, Assam, Tripura, Manipur and Nagaland are much bigger in respect of their population. Meghalaya, Assam, Tripura and Nagaland occupy 21st, 13th, 19th and 23rd positions respectively in the size of population.

The following tables gives and idea about the comparative sizes of population of different States and Union Territories.

TABLE 2.1

*Population figures of States and Union Territories in India at 1971
and 1981 censuses with ranks*

Name of states/Union Territories	Population in 1981	Rank	Population in 1971	Rank
1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh	110,862,013	1	88,341,144	1
Bihar	69,914,734	2	56,353,369	2
Maharashtra	62,784,171	3	50,412,235	3
West Bengal	54,580,647	4	44,312,011	4
Andhra Pradesh	53,549,673	5	43,502,708	5
Madhya Pradesh	52,178,844	6	41,654,119	6
Tamil Nadu	48,408,077	7	41,199,168	7
Karnataka	37,135,714	8	29,299,014	8
Rajasthan	34,261,862	9	25,765,806	9
Gujarat	34,085,799	10	26,697,475	10
Orissa	26,370,271	11	21,944,615	11

TABLE 2.1—*contd.*

1	2	3	4	5
Kerala	25,453,680	12	21,347,375	12
Assam*	19,896,843	13	14,625,152	13
Punjab	16,788,915	14	13,551,060	14
Haryana	12,922,618	15	10,036,808	15
Delhi (U.T.)	6,220,406	16	4,065,698	16
Jammu & Kashmir	5,987,389	17	4,616,632	17
Himachal Pradesh	4,280,818	18	3,460,434	18
Tripura	2,053,058	19	1,556,342	19
Manipur	1,420,953	20	1,072,753	20
Meghalaya	1,335,819	21	1,011,699	21
Goa, Daman and Diu (U.T.)	1,086,730	22	857,771	22
Nagaland	774,930	23	516,449	23
Arunachal Pradesh (U.T.)	631,839	24	467,511	24
Pondicherry (U.T.)	604,471	25	471,707	25
Mizoram (U.T.)	493,757	26	332,390†	26
Chandigarh (U.T.)	451,610	27	257,251	27
Sikkim	316,385	28	209,843	28
Andaman and Nicobar Island (U.T.)	188,741	29	115,133	29
Dadra and Nagar Haveli (U.T.)	103,676	30	74,170	30
Lakshadweep (U.T.)	40,249	31	31,810	31

*This is based on population projection.

†Recast figures, as this was part of Assam in 1971.

From the above table it is observed that States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Maharashtra maintained their first, second and third ranks respectively in both the Censuses. However, Mizoram maintains the same rank (i.e. 26) in both the decades.

Distribution of population :

The District is the main Administrative Unit throughout India. During the 1981 Census in Mizoram there were three Districts only, having nine sub-divisions and twenty Community Development Blocks. Uttar Pradesh is the biggest State in respect of population and this State is divided into 56 Districts. The highest average population of a district is in West Bengal, where the average population is 34 lakhs. The average population of a district in Mizoram is 1.64 lakhs.

Table 2.2 shows the 1981 population in the three districts of Mizoram.

TABLE 2.2

Population of districts in Mizoram with ranks in 1981

District	Population at 1981	Rank in 1981
Aizawl District	340,826	1
Lunglei District	86,511	2
Chhimtuipui District	66,420	3

In the 1971 Census, Mizoram was one of the several districts of Assam State. However, this district was divided into three sub-divisions. The three districts of Mizoram were created after the Union Territory came into existence by raising the former sub-divisions to the status of a full-fledged districts without affecting any change in the boundary thereof. Mizoram has only three districts, namely, Aizawl, Lunglei and Chhimtuipui. The Area of Aizawl district is larger than the other two districts. The population of Aizawl district is also much larger than that in the two districts of Lunglei and Chhimtuipui.

Table 2.3 shows a relative average population size of a district in different States and Union Territories.

TABLE 2.3

Average population size of a district at 1981 census in different States and Union Territories

Rank in 1981	States/Union Territories	Average population size of a district in 1981
1	2	3
STATES		
1	West Bengal	3,411,290
2	Tamil Nadu	3,025,504
	Maharashtra	2,414,775
4	Andhra Pradesh	2,328,246
5	Bihar	2,255,314
6	Kerala	2,121,140
7	Orissa	2,028,482
8	Assam	1,989,684
9	Uttar Pradesh	1,979,678

TABLE 2.3—contd.

1	2	3
10	Karnataka	1,954,511
11	Gujarat	1,793,989
12	Punjab	1,399,076
13	Rajasthan	1,317,763
14	Madhya Pradesh	1,159,529
15	Haryana	1,076,884
16	Tripura	684,352
17	Jammu and Kashmir	427,670
18	Himachal Pradesh	356,735
19	Meghalaya	267,764
20	Manipur	236,825
21	Nagaland	110,704
22	Sikkim	79,096
UNION TERRITORIES		
1	Delhi	1,220,406
2	Chandigarh	451,610
3	Goa, Daman and Diu	362,243
4	Mizoram	164,585
5	Pondicherry	151,118
6	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	103,676
7	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	94,370
8	Arunachal Pradesh	70,204
9	Lakshadweep	40,249

The Census Act (Act 37 of 1948), a Central Legislation passed by Parliament of India, vests enough power in Central and State Governments to requisition the services of their employees for Census work. The Deputy Commissioners in three districts of Mizoram were designated as Principal Census Officers in their respective districts and the nine sub-divisional Officers as sub-divisional Census Officers in their respective sub-divisions. Senior Officers like Additional Deputy Commissioners were made District Census Officers and Assistants to Deputy Commissioners as Assistant District Census Officers to assist the Deputy Commissioners in the massive operations.

All the 20 Community Blocks in Mizoram were made Census charges and the concerned Block Development Officers designated as charge Officers. There were altogether 29 Census Charges in the whole of Mizoram which includes 9 Urban

Charges and 20 Rural Charges. There were 19 Charges for Aizawl District which includes 12 Rural Charges and 7 Urban Charges. There were 5 Charges in Lunglei district covering 4 charges for Rural and 1 charge for Urban. The similar number of charges were in Chhimtuipui district.

In 1981 Census, we have four new towns, namely, Kolasib, Serchhip and Champhai in Aizawl District and Saiha the district headquarters in Chhimtuipui district. There was no new town in Lunglei district and Lunglei town, the district headquarter was treated as a town during 1971 Census and continued to be so in 1981 census too. Till 1971 census there were only two towns in Mizoram, Aizawl town, the district headquarters of Aizawl district and Lunglei town, the district headquarters and the sub-divisional headquarters of Lunglei sub-division. These two towns continued to be towns in 1981 also. The tradition being presentation of census data for rural and urban areas separately, it became necessary to identify the urban areas prior to the commencement of Census. The criteria for an urban area are: (i) minimum population of 5,000, (ii) 75 per cent of the male working population should be engaged in non-agricultural and allied pursuits and (iii) density of population of atleast 400 per sq. Km. (1,000 per sq. mile). In order to declare any place as town the above conditions must be fulfilled. The following table gives the population returned at 1981 for all the 20 Rural Charges and 6 Towns.

TABLE 2.4

Population of Rural Charges and Towns at 1981 in Mizoram arranged in descending order

Rank	Charges/Towns	Population
1	2	3
CHARGES		
1	East Lungdar	28,885
2	Khawzawl	28,320
3	North Thingdawl	27,069
4	Lokicherra	24,444
5	Lungsen	21,127
6	Ngopa	20,956
7	Thingsultliab	20,638
8	Tlangnuam	19,276
9	Haahthial	18,615
10	Lawnghlai	18,517

TABLE 2.4—*contd*

1	2	3
11	Darlawn	18,066
12	Lunglei	17,325
13	Chawngte	16,983
14	West Bunghmum	16,838
15	Serchhip	16,099
16	Tuipang	15,125
17	West Bunghmun	12,239
18	Aibawk	11,671
19	Reiek	10,973
20	Sangau	8,777
TOWNS		
1	Aizawl	74,493
2	Lunglei	17,205
3	Kolasib	8,282
4	Champhai	7,487
5	Serchhip	7,329
6	Saiha	7,018

Density of population

It is often interesting to workout land people ratio or density of population. It is calculated by dividing the population by the area in which this population live. Though it is crude measure, it helps us to find out the pattern of distribution of population in different regions of a country or a state. According to 1981 census, the density of India is 208 persons per Km² including Assam. (The 1981 census in respect of Assam could not be conducted due to disturbances and hence only projected figures of population have been used). Among the States, Kerala has highest density of 655 persons per kilometre followed by West Bengal of 615 persons per Km². Among the States and Union Territories, Delhi has the highest density of 4194 persons per Km²., followed by Chandigarh of 3961 persons per Km². Union Territory of Mizoram has only 23 persons per Km². The Andaman and Nicobar Island also has the same density as in Mizoram. These two Territories have returned the second lowest density among the States and Union Territories. Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest density of 8 persons per Km² on account of its vast mountaineous and snow bound areas. It will be very useful to study the density of

various states and Union Territories by ranks as furnished in the table below.

TABLE 2.5
Density of Population at 1981 census for various States and Union Territories

Rank in 1981	State/Union Territory	Density of population (per Km ²)
1	2	3
1	Kerala	655
2	West Bengal	615
3	Bihar	402
4	Uttar Pradesh	377
5	Tamil Nadu	372
6	Punjab	333
7	Haryana	292
8	Maharashtra	204
9	Tripura	196
10	Andhra Pradesh	195
11	Karnataka	194
12	Gujarat	174
13	Orissa	169
14	Madhya Pradesh	118
15	Rajasthan	100
16	Himachal Pradesh	77
17	Manipur	64
18	Meghalaya	60
19	Nagaland	47
20	Sikkim	45
21	Jammu and Kashmir	59*
UNION TERRITORIES		
1	Delhi	4194
2	Chandigarh	3961
3	Lakshadweep	1258
4	Pondicherry	1229
5	Goa, Daman and Diu	285
6	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	211
7	Mizoram	23
8	Andaman and Nicobar Island	23
9	Arunachal Pradesh	8

NOTE : The ranking of Assam is excluded from the table as no Census was held in 1981.

*The density has been worked out on comparable data.

Let us now see how the density of population has undergone a change in Mizoram during the past one decade. The following table provides district-wise density figures at 1971 and 81 censuses with ranks.

TABLE 2.6

Density of population in Mizoram and its districts at 1971 and 1981 Censuses

Rank in 1981	State/District	Density of population (persons per km ²)		Rank in 1971
		1981	1971	
1	2	3	4	5
	Mizoram.	23	16	
1	Aizawl	27	18	1
2	Lunglei	19	14	2
3	Chhimtuipui	17	10	3

As we know, Mizoram is a new Union Territory which came into existence only in 1972, and as such we can give a comparative statement for last ten years only. During ten years, there is an increment in density of population by 7 persons per Km². Aizawl district has the highest density among the three districts in Mizoram both in 1971 and 1981 censuses. The density of population in Chhimtuipui district is 10 and 17 respectively at 1971 and 1981 censuses. This district has the lowest density of population in Mizoram. But there is an increase of 7 persons per Km² during the decade 1971-81. Lunglei district has the lowest increase only of 5 persons in the density of population during the decade 1971-81.

How we are housed :

Indian Censuses are an important source of information on the condition of housing in the Country. It is already mentioned in the first chapter that housing census is conducted as a preliminary to the final population count. In course of the housing census many useful data are collected about the houses in the country. As you know each individual requires shelter from sun, rain and wind and as such housing is one of the basic needs of life. Therefore, a house is the most elementary need next perhaps to food and clothing.

At the outset it will be useful to explain the terms 'House' and 'Household' as defined at the census operations. The definitions are given below:

Census House :

A Census House is a building or part of a building having a separate main entrance from the road or common courtyard or staircase, etc., used or recognised as a separate unit. It may be occupied or vacant. It may be used for a residential or non-residential purpose or both.

Household :

A household is a group of persons who commonly live together and would take their meals from a common kitchen unless the exigencies of work prevented any of them from doing so. There may be a household of persons related by blood or a household of unrelated persons or having a mix of both. Examples of unrelated households are boarding houses, messes, hostels, residential hotels, rescue homes, jails, ashrams, etc. These are called 'Institutional households'. There may be one member households, 2 member households or multi-member households. For census purposes, each one of these types is regarded as a 'household'.

There are also the houseless households and the population covered in such households at 1981 in Mizoram is small with 375 only. By houseless population we mean those persons who live on the roadside, on platforms of railway stations, Verandahs and in jungles without having constructed a hut.

The housing standards in Mizoram are poor. In the villages people use thatching grass (Di) and Cane Leaves (Thilthek) for their roofs and most of the structures are of bamboos and wood only. Walls are generally of bamboos. Most of the houses generally have two rooms, one for cooking and the other for living purpose. In urban areas housing conditions are better and they use corrugated galvanised iron sheets and asbestos sheets for roofs and walls. There are also many R.C.C. constructions in urban pockets of Mizoram.

The following table gives details about the number of houses, number of households and the average size of a household during the 1971 and 1981 censuses. It is noticed that average size of household is on the decline in 1981 when compared with 1971 census.

TABLE 2.7

Number of occupied census houses, households at 1981 census and average size of household at 1971 and 1981 Censuses in Mizoram and its districts

State/District	No. of occupied census houses	Number of households	Average size of household	
			1981	1971
1	2	3	4	5
Mizoram.	81341	81381	6.07	6.52
Aizawl	55989	56021	6.08	6.57
Lunglei	14242	14242	6.07	6.95
Chhimtuipui	11110	11118	5.97	5.74

According to 1981 census, there are 17,318 persons who are living in institutions and forming institutional population. The following table provides institutional households and population by sex in Mizoram at 1981 census.

TABLE 2.8

Institutional population in Mizoram by sex

State/District	Number of institutional households	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
Mizoram.	1,112	17,318	16,840	478
Aizawl	726	10,575	10,223	352
Lunglei	252	4,559	4,437	122
Chhimtuipui	134	2,184	2,180	4

Growth Rate of Population :

The growth rate of a population means the rate at which the population of a given area is growing over a given period of a time. In 1971 the population of India was 548,159,652, and it was 685,184,692 in 1981 resulting in a net addition during the decade of 137,025,040. This gave a growth rate of 25.00 per cent. In other words, the addition of population during the decade, if in a round figure is 138 million.

The following table provides the growth rates of the country's population during 1901-1981.

TABLE 2.9
Decadal growth rates of population during 1901—1981

Year	Population	Net change during decade	Growth rate during decade
1	2	3	4
1901	238,396,327		..
1911	252,093,390	+ 13,697,063	+ 5.73
1921	251,321,213	—772,177	— 0.31
1931	278,977,238	+ 27,656,025	+11.00
1941	318,660,580	+ 39,683,342	+14.22
1951	361,088,090	+ 42,427,510	+13.31
1961	439,234,771	+ 77,682,873	+21.51
1971	548,159,652	+108,924,881	+24.80
1981	685,184,692	+137,025,040	+25.00

In the first decade of the century the population of India grew only by about 6 per cent. The following decade saw a slight decline in the population due to the great influenza epidemic. From 1921, however, the population grew steadily at a high rate. Between 1921 and 1951 the decadal growth rates were between 11 and 14 per cent. Advances in Medical Science put an effective check on the death rate, leading to a sharp fall therein, during these decades. The post independence decades saw a further quickening of the pace of growth. In 1951 to 1961 the growth rate jumped to 22 per cent. However in the last two decades the growth rates are at 25 per cent. In terms of actual numbers there was an increase of about 13 million people in the first twenty years between 1901-1921. In the next twenty years between 1921-1941 the increase was 67 million. The subsequent twenty years period between 1941-1961 experienced still greater increase of 120 million. Now, in the last decade in just ten years 138 million was added.

What are the factors responsible for the growth of population in our country?. Birth, Deaths and migration are the components of population growth. Migration is the third component which is not so significant in our country for the growth of population, but the first and the second components are major factors to be taken into account for population study. The total number of births or deaths in an area is usually expressed in the form of rate per thousand population per year. These rates are called Crude Rates. The birth rate and the death rates are not derived directly from census records. These

are usually obtained from the vital registration records or in addition through sample surveys. Though in advanced countries births and deaths are recorded regularly and systematically, in our country, unfortunately, there is no regular or reliable system to register vital statistics. Normally, therefore, sample surveys are undertaken to arrive at the birth and death rates.

Growth rate of population of Mizoram :

Prior to 1971 census the present Mizoram was a District in Assam having its district headquarters at Aizawl. The present jurisdiction of the Districts of Mizoram were the then three sub-divisions viz., Aizawl, Lunglei and Tlabung. The growth rate of population in Mizoram starting from 1901-1981 will present a clear picture. The following table gives an idea of the growth of population in Mizoram from 1901 to 1981.

TABLE 2.10
Decadal growth rates of Population in Mizoram during 1901—1981

Year	Population	Net change of population during the decade	Growth rate of population during the decade
1	2	3	4
1901	82,434	..	..
1911	91,204	+8,770	+10.64
1921	98,406	+7,202	+7.90
1931	124,404	+25,998	+26.42
1941	152,786	+28,382	+22.81
1951	196,202	+43,416	+28.42
1961	266,063	+69,861	+35.61
1971	332,390	+66,327	+24.93
1981	493,757	+161,367	+48.55

The growth rate during 1911-1921 was the lowest (7.90 per cent). During the decade there was a great Famine called 'Mautam' in 1911 in the whole of Mizoram. There was an increase of rats in the whole of Mizoram eating all vegetables and paddy, etc. Many people died due to starvation, bad nutrition and food, etc., and it was like an epidemic. During this decade the 1st World War broke out in 1914 and many young Mizo people went and joined as Labour Corps in the War Field of Europe. Therefore, there was a fall of growth rate.

During 1931-1941 decade the second World War broke out and many Mizo went out either to join the Army or the

Labour Corps. The growth rate was not steady during this period but decreased instead to 22.81 per cent. The growth rate fell again during 1961-1971 due to the Political disturbance in Mizoram (1966). During the disturbances many people had to leave Mizoram to seek shelter in other districts of Assam and neighbouring State of Manipur for their safety. In the meantime many Mizo young people were joining the Under-ground Movement. Therefore the growth rates became lower during this decade also. The growth rate remained steady except during the above mentioned decades.

The growth rate during 1971-1981 was the highest (48.55 per cent). This could be accounted for by stabilisation of administration in Mizoram. However, compared with the growth rate of all India which is 25 per cent during this decade, Mizoram recorded a very high growth rate of population.

District-wise growth rate :

As mentioned earlier, Mizoram was one of the districts in Assam till 1971 census. As such, there were two sub-divisions such as Aizawl and Lunglei in Mizoram district. The Aizawl sub-division is the present Aizawl district, while the Lunglei sub-division is the present Lunglei and Chhimtuipui districts. Although the Census data in respect of our State are available since 1901, but district-wise growth rates can be had only since 1961. In 1961 census there were only two sub-divisions in Mizo Hills. In 1971 census the two sub-divisions were made into three by carving out a separate Pawi, Lakher Region (which is now known as Chhimtuipui district) in the Lunglei sub-division.

If we study the growth rate of population for a period of 20 years from 1961-1981, the total net increase was 227,694 out of which the growth in Aizawl district alone was 1,57,176 and in Lunglei district it was 4,098 only indicating that Aizawl district was adding more population than Lunglei. Lunglei district had an increase of only 4,098 population from 1961-1981. In 1961, Lunglei district population was composed of the then Pawi, Lakher habitations. In 1971 census, the population of Chhimtuipui district (the then Pawi, Lakher Region) was omitted from Lunglei district population.

Against the growth rate of 48.55 per cent of the State at 1971-1981, the growth rate of Aizawl district stands at 48.76 per cent and that of Lunglei and Chhimtuipui districts stand at 39.23 per cent and 61.44 per cent respectively. The following table gives the districtwise population and growth rates during 1961—1981.

TABLE 2.11

District-wise growth rates of population and variation of Population for the period 1961-81

State/District	Population		Variation of population			Growth Rate	
	1961	1971	1981	1961-1971	1971-1981	1961-1971	1971-1981
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Mizoram	266,063	332,290	493,757	+66,327	+161,367	+24.93	+48.55
Aizawl	183,650	229,112	340,826	+45,462	+111,714	+24.75	+48.76
Lunglei	82,413	62,136	86,511	-20,277	+24,375	-24.60	+39.23
Chhimituipui	X	41,142	66,420	X	+25,278	X	+61.44

X Population of Chhimituipui district (Pawi-Lakher Region) was only available since 1971 census.

CHAPTER — 3

VILLAGE DWELLERS AND TOWN DWELLERS

The vast majority of us live in villages. But our Urban population, that is, the people living in towns and cities is ever increasing. It is useful to make a distinction between the Rural and Urban population as the village and town life differs significantly. The rural communities are usually small and agriculture is their main occupation. Industry or Trade and Commerce has very little impact on village community. Rural life is therefore, singled out and villagers are bound by traditions and social customs. Urban communities, on the other hand, are large and complex in their character. Most of the people are engaged in different activities like Industry, Trade, Commerce and Service. Towns and Cities enjoy modern amenities like Electricity, Transport and Communication facilities, Medical facilities and Educational facilities. An Urbanite, unlike his rural counterpart, is less conservative and quick to adopt new ideas and modern ways of life. The surplus population of the rural areas are attracted by the opportunities of employment in towns and cities. Therefore, there is a constant flow of people from Rural to Urban areas.

It is important to study the process of urbanisation closely. Before going into the details of process of urbanisation in India, one must know the definition of urban area. Unfortunately, there exists no uniform criteria for distinguishing urban area from rural area in our country till 1951 Census. Since conditions vary between state to state, it has not been possible to formulate a uniform definition which can be applicable to all. The size of settlement is the most universal definition of an urban area. In India, local authorities were given discretionary power to choose a particular settlement as an urban area. In view of the increasing importance of studying urbanisation, the then Census Commissioner of 1961 Census made an effort to clearly define the concept of "TOWN". United Nations have defined an urban area as a locality of 20,000 population or more inhabitants. This definition may not, be appropriate for the Indian circumstances. The definition of urban area has been evolved at 1961 Census and was adopted in the subsequent censuses. In the 1981 Census, the definition adopted for an urban area was, by and large, the same as that of 1961 and 1971.

Urban areas are separately defined for Census purposes. In 1981 Census, the same criteria was adopted as in 1961 and 1971 Censuses with only some minor variations. In the 1961 and 1971 Censuses, male workers engaged in activities such as fishing, logging, etc., were treated as engaged in non-agricultural activity and therefore, contributed to the 75% of male working population in non-agricultural activities, which was one of the criteria in 1961 and 1971 Censuses. In 1981 Census, these activities were treated as at par with cultivation and agricultural labour for the purpose of criterion.

The definition of 'URBAN' as adopted in 1981 Census of India, is as follows:—

- (a) All places with a Municipality, Corporation or Cantonment Board or Notified Town areas;
- (b) All other places which satisfied the following criteria:—
 - (1) A minimum population of 5,000;
 - (2) At least 75% of the male working population engaged in non-agricultural (and allied) activity;
 - (3) A density of population at least 400 per sq.km (or one thousand per square mile).

Sometimes it is found that around the main towns, small urbanised areas like railway colonies, University Campuses etc., grow up. These areas are small to be treated as independent towns but they cannot be regarded as villages either. In the 1971 Census to cover such cases the concept of Urban Agglomeration was developed as also in 1981. An urban agglomeration means the main town along with the continuation of urbanised areas around them. Sometimes one such Urban Agglomeration may include one or more neighbouring towns. There were no such places in Mizoram in the 1981 Census.

According to the definition of Urban, there are 6 places in Mizoram that were treated as Towns in 1981 Census. All other places were treated as Rural. There are 721 inhabited villages in the State while there are 15 uninhabited villages also.

The overwhelming majority of the State's population live in these 721 villages. Out of the total population of 493,757 about 371,943 people are village dwellers constituting 75.33 per cent of the total population. Only 121,814 population or

24.57 per cent of the total population are town dwellers. By a village we mean a group of houses according to revenue records. The definition of a village in the State of Mizoram is a collection of houses bearing a separate name and situated within certain boundaries traditionally recognised by the villagers. As time went on, the boundaries of the villages had also been recognised by the District Administration. But in the plain Districts, where most of the areas have been cadastrally surveyed, the cadastral village has been taken as a village for Census purpose. The entire village is one unit but there may be unsurveyed villages within forest, etc., which mainly comprise forest labourers and their families. Such unsurveyed villages within the forest have also been treated as villages. But in Mizoram there is not even a single forest village.

In 1981 Census, there are 15 uninhabited villages and 721 inhabited villages in the entire Mizoram. There were 229 inhabited villages and one uninhabited village at 1971 Census, which indicates abnormal increase in the number of enumerated villages in 1981. The rapid increase in the number of enumerated villages during the decade is due to large scale grouping of villages in 1971 Census. As Political disturbances broke out in Mizoram on the 1st March, 1966, several smaller villages were grouped together for security reasons. In view of this measure, the number of villages found in 1971 was much less in composition to that of 1981. As time passed the people of grouped villages returned to their respective villages and thus these villages came into existence again in 1981 Census. The number of villages thus increased in 1981 Census.

The number of inhabited villages in the districts of Mizoram is given in the Table 3.1

TABLE 3.1
Inhabited villbges, Rural population and avrage population as per 1981 Census.

State/District	Total No. of inhabited villages	Rural population	Average population of a village
MIZORAM	721	3,71,943	516
AIZAWL	390	2,43,235	624
LUNGLEI	161	69,306	430
CHHIMTUIPUI	170	59,402	349

The villages in Mizoram are of various sizes. We can classify them into seven groups according to the size of population. Most of the villages in Aizawl District are bigger than the villages in Chhimtuipui District. According to the population, North Kawnpui village is the biggest village in Mizoram. It's total population is 4,523. This village is under North Thingdawl C.D. Block in Aizawl District. The smallest villages have a total population of 5. These villages are found in Khankawn Z in Lunglei District and Phaizau in Aizawl District. There is no village with population ranging from 5000-9999. There are 30 villages with population of 2000-4999. As many as 62 villages are with population between 1000-1999, 127 villages are with population between 500-999. There are 267 villages with a population between 200-499 and 235 villages with a population less than 200.

If we regard a village with a population of less than 500 as a small village we find that majority of the villages of Mizoram belonged to this category of 'small villages'. Chhimtuipui District possesses the highest proportion of such 'small villages' with 79% of total villages. The second highest percentage of the small villages is in Lunglei District with 78%. The third highest number is in Aizawl district with 61 per cent of such villages to total villages. There are quite a number of small villages (70 per cent) with a population of less than 500 persons in Mizoram.

Table 3.2 presents the percentage of villages of each group to total in each District as at 1981 Census.

TABLE 3.2

Percentage of villages by size of population to total number of villages at 1981 Census

State/District	Less than 500		500—999		1000—1999		2000—4999		5000 and above	
	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages	Percentage of number of villages in this class to total number of villages
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
MIZORAM	69.63	17.61	8.6	4.16	..					
AIZAWL	61.54	21.03	10.77	6.66	..					
LUNGLEI	78.88	10.56	8.70	1.86	..					
CHHIMTUPOI	79.41	16.47	3.53	0.59	..					

Let us now look at the Urban population. In Mizoram, only about 25 per cent of the people are living in towns. This means that only 2 persons approximately out of ten live in urban areas. Therefore, Mizoram is not highly urbanised State in the country. There are only three States in India which have least urban population, i.e., say having 10 per cent or less Urban population to total. They are, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. The most urbanised areas in the country are Chandigarh (93.63% urban), Delhi (92.73 urban), Lakshadweep (46.28% urban) which are all Union Territories. Among the States, the first three Urbanised States are Maharashtra (35.03), Tamil Nadu (32.95) and Gujarat (31.10). These three States achieved the highest urbanisation in 1971 also. Detailed figures giving proportion of population in urban areas for all the States and Union Territories are shown in Table 3.3.

TABLE 3.3

Percentage of Urban population in State/Union Territories at 1981 Census

State/Union Territories	Percentage of Urban population to total population, 1981
1	2
STATES :	
1. Andhra Pradesh	23.31
2. Bihar	23.32
3. Gujarat	12.47
4. Haryana	31.10
5. Himachal Pradesh	7.61
6. Jammu & Kashmir	21.05
7. Karnataka	28.89
8. Kerala	18.74
9. Madhya Pradesh	20.29
10. Maharashtra	35.03
11. Manipur	26.42
12. Meghalaya	18.07
13. Nagaland	15.52
14. Orissa	11.79
15. Punjab	27.68

TABLE 3.3—*contd.*

	1	2
16. Rajasthan		21.05
17. Sikkim		16.15
18. Tamil Nadu		32.95
19. Tripura		10.99
20. Uttar Pradesh		17.95
21. West Bengal		26.47
<i>UNION TERRITORIES :</i>		
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands		26.30
2. Arunachal Pradesh		6.56
3. Chandigarh		93.63
4. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		6.67
5. Delhi		92.73
6. Goā, Daman and Diu		32.37
7. Lakshadweep		46.28
8. Mizoram		24.67
9. Pondicherry		52.28

NOTE : Excludes Assam where Census could not be under taken owing to disturbed conditions that prevailed during the Census period.

As mentioned earlier, there are altogether 6 towns in Mizoram, four in Aizawl District and one each in Lunglei and Chhimituipui Districts. According to 1981 Census 24.67 per cent total population are living in Urban. In Aizawl District alone, 28.63 per cent people are in urban which was 13.85 per cent in 1971. During the period 1971-1981 the urban population of Aizawl has increased by 134.7 per cent. There is only one town in Lunglei District both at the 1971 and 1981 Censuses. The percentage increase of urban population in the District during the decade 71-81 is 185.84 per cent. This means that the percentage of urban population to total population in 1971 was 9.69 per cent and 19.89 per cent in 1981. In Chhimituipui District there was no town in 1971 Census, but one town came up in 1981 Census and the percentage of urban population to total population became 10.57 per cent in the District. Table 3.4 presents the district-wise urban population proportions for 1971 and 1981 Censuses.

TABLE 3.4

**Percentage of Urban population in the Districts at 1971 and 1981
Censuses in Mizoram**

State/District	Number of towns in		Percentage of Urban population to total population in	
	1981	1971	1981	1971
1	2	3	4	5
MIZORAM	6	2	24.67	11.35
AIZAWL	4	1	28.63	13.85
LUNGLEI	1	1	19.89	9.69
CHHIMTUIPUI	1	..	10.57	..

According to 1981 Census there are 3,949 Towns in India, excluding in Assam which comprised of municipal areas, cantonments, notified areas and non-municipal areas, that satisfied the criteria laid down for treating an area as town. In 1971, the number of Towns excluding in Assam, was 2,643. There is a net increase of 895 towns i.e., 29.31 per cent during 1971-1981. Similarly, the urban population has also gone up from 107,824,775 to 157,680,171 (46.24 per cent) during 1971-1981. The highest increase is noticeable in Class IV towns, where the number of towns have increased from 962 to 1247 during 1971-1981.

Towns are classified as per population size. Indian Census has classified the towns into the following six categories based on the size of population.

Class I Towns (or Cities)	with a population of	100,000 and above
Class II Towns	Do.	50,000 — 99,999
Class III Towns	Do.	20,000 — 49,999
Class IV Towns	Do.	10,000 — 19,999
Class V Towns	Do.	5,000 — 9,999
Class VI Towns	Do.	Less than — 5,000

The following table gives the data on the growth in number of towns by various classes and their proportions of population to total population in 1981.

TABLE 3.5

Urban areas by size class, their number and their population proportion to total population at 1981 for all India

Size class of urban	Number of Urban areas	Percentage of population to total urban population of India in 1981
1	2	3
All Classes	3949	100.00
Class I	226	52.66
Class II	325	13.97
Class III	883	17.04
Class IV	1247	11.21
Class V	920	4.40
Class VI	348	0.72

The number of cities has risen from 150 to 226 during 1971-1981. The number of towns in Class I to Class IV is steadily increasing and this increase may be due to the growth of population because of industrial development pushing the towns into higher size classes.

As there are only six towns in the entire state of Mizoram at 1981, there is nothing much to say about urban population. As mentioned earlier, there are four towns in Aizawl District, Aizawl being the biggest town in Mizoram that was treated as town since 1951. The other three towns in Aizawl District are Kolasib, Serchhip and Champhai which are treated as towns only in 1981 Census. Lunglei the second biggest town in the State is in Lunglei District and was treated as town from 1971 Census. Saiha, the only town in Chhimtuipui District is also treated as town for the first time in 1981. Four new towns, namely, Kolasib, Serchhip and Champhai and Saiha are classified as Class V Towns. There is only one town under Class IV and that is Lunglei. Aizawl, the capital of the State and the District Headquarters of Aizawl is classified as Class II town in 1981 Census. Table 3.6 shows number of towns and the percentage of the population of each to total urban population of the State from 1901 to 1981.

TABLE 3.6

Year	All classes of towns			Class II towns			Class III towns		
	No. of Town	Population	Percentage of population to total urban population	No. of Towns	Population	Percentage of population to total urban population	No. of towns	Population	Percentage of population to total urban population
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1901	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1911	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1921	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1941	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1951	1	6,950	100	..	..	..	..	..	..
1961	1	14,257	100	..	..	..	..	..	..
1971	2	37,759	100	..	..	..	1	31,740	84
1981	6	1,21,814	100	1	74,493	61	..	..	..

TABLE 3.6—*Contd.*

Year	Class IV towns			Class V towns			Class VI towns		
	No. of towns	Population of towns	Percentage of population to total urban population	No. of towns	Population of towns	Percentage of population to total urban population	No. of towns	Population of towns	Percentage of population to total urban population
1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1901 .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1911 .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1921 .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1931 .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1941 .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1951 .	..	..	..	1	6,950	100	..	..	..
1961 .	1	14,257	100	..	..	..	..	..	..
1971 .	..	..	..	1	6,019	16	..	..	..
1981 .	1	17,205	14	4	30,116	25	..	..	..

CHAPTER 4

ARE THE NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN BALANCED ?

The age-wise and sex-wise composition of population which provides information regarding the proportion of men and women and the proportion of persons in different age groups forms an important aspect of population studies. The age and sex composition of a population has great influence on the growth of the population. For example, in a population that has an extra-ordinarily high share of members aged over 50, we would expect low birth rates and high death rates, which results in slow growth rate. Similarly a very high pre-ponderance of one sex will tend to a lower fertility and slower growth. Such imbalances effect the social and economic life of the population. For instance, the decrease in male population due to war (where a war has removed a large proportion of the males) leaving large number of adult women with no eligible males, causes normal family life impossible (for a large proportion of the adult) and this leads to a good deal of social evils.

The term which is used in population studies to indicate the proportion between men and women is sex-ratio. Sex ratio in India represents the number of females per 1000 males. But in some countries it is defined as the number of males per 100 females. High sex-ratio refers to the excess of females over males in a population and a low sex-ratio denotes a deficit of female population and masculine predominance. If for every 1,000 men there are 1,000 women we say that the sex-ratio is balanced. If the number of males is less than 1,000, then the number of female will exceed males and the sex-ratio will be greater than 1000.

Though ideally the sex-ratio of men and women should be balanced, in practice, it is never so. There are several reasons for such inequality in proportion between the sexes. The most important reason is ~~(one relates to)~~ the disparity in the birth

and death rates for different sexes. It has been observed that more male babies are born than female ones, but within one year after birth more male babies die than the female ones. This factor is likely to result in keeping balanced proportion of sexes, but a balance in death rates at higher ages is also required to keep the sex-ratio balanced. In fact, it is because the death rates in higher ages differ between males and females that the proportion between the sexes becomes imbalanced. In our country women in their child bearing ages die in comparatively larger numbers than men of the same age group owing to causes like frequent child-bearing, poor medical facilities and so on. This effects the proportion between men and women at higher ages. Another important factor which influences sex-ratio is migration. As we know the migration may be from the villages to the towns, between states or between countries. (It is common experience that in all types of migration.) In these migrations generally more men move than women. For instance, in the case of migration from rural areas to the urban areas, it is the man who first moves into the town or city usually in search of employment. They leave behind their families. Thus migration adds to the total male population of the Urban areas. Similarly, such migration reduces the male population of the Rural areas. Sometimes the number of young men suddenly reduces owing to heavy loss in wars which affects the sex balance. The Second World War caused a shortage of males in some of the European countries and as a result the sex ratio in those countries became very high. The imbalance in the proportion between the sexes is visible all over the world. Males outnumber females in most of the Asian countries. The Arab countries and African also experience the same excess of males. Australia, Canada and New Zealand also belong to the male dominated category. On the other hand several countries of Europe and the America and the U.S.S.R. have an excess of females over males.

A look at the sex-ratio of India in the past decades shows that our country suffers from a deficiency of females and that this deficiency has been steadily increasing over the decades. Since the turn of the century, every census has recorded a decline in the sex-ratio of our country. Thus the sex-ratio, which was 972 in 1901 steadily decreased through the decades and fell to the level of 934 in 1951. But there is a slight increase in the sex-ratio during the decade 1971-81. Table 4.1 gives the sex-ratios for the country and the U.T. of Mizoram from 1901-1981.

TABLE 4.1

Sex-ratio in India and Mizoram, 1901—1981

Year	Sex-ratio in	
	India	Mizoram
1	2	3
1901	972	1,113
1911	964	1,120
1921	956	1,109
1931	952	1,102
1941	947	1,069
1951	948	1,041
1961	941	1,009
1971	931	946
1981	934*	919

*Excludes Assam, where census could not be held owing to disturbed conditions, that prevailed during the census period.

From the study of the sex-ratios in Mizoram, we find that from 1901 upto 1981 the sex-ratio stands almost imbalanced. During the period from 1901 to 1961, this state was dominated by females, meaning the female population was larger than that of male. It means that for every 1000 male population there were more than 1000 females. But in 1971 and 1981 censuses the sex-ratio indicates less females than males. In these two censuses (1971 & 1981), there is notable decrease in female population in Mizoram. In 1971 census there were 946 females per thousand males in Mizoram and this has decreased to 919 in 1981 census. However, the reasons for the decrease in female population is not clear. It may be due to the Migration of young females outside the state for studies and in search of employment or it may be due to the birth of more male babies during this decade. One important reason for the sex-ratio being low in Mizoram is that Mizoram has been receiving a regular flow of migrants. As we have discussed earlier, migration results in lowering the sex ratio. The sex-ratio in the State was 1,113 in 1901 which steadily declined through the decades to the level of 919 in 1981. The relevant figures are given in the table 4.1.

In case of the other states of the Indian Union also, we notice the decrease in women population in proportion to men. The sole exception is Kerala, which is the only State having an

excess of females over males. Its sex-ratio in 1981 is 1032, which is naturally the highest among all the States. Among the States, Sikkim registers the lowest sex-ratio of 835. But the degree of decrease in females is not uniform in all the States. The States, showing a sex-ratio of 950 and above are Orissa (981), Tamil Nadu (977) Andhra Pradesh (975), Himachal Pradesh (973), Manipur (971), Karnataka (963), Meghalaya (954). The states with very low sex-ratios are Sikkim (835), Nagaland (863), Haryana (870), Punjab (879). In general, the States of Southern India have higher sex-ratios than those of Northern or North-Eastern India.

Among the Union Territories, the lowest sex-ratio is in Andaman and Nicobar Island (760) and the highest is in Pondicherry (985). There is less variation in sex-ratios among the States than that of Union Territories. Table 4.2 gives the sex-ratios of the States and Union Territories.

TABLE 4.2
Sex-ratio in the States & Union Territories

Country/State/U.T.	Sex-ratio in 1981
1	2
INDIA*	934
STATES	
Andhra Pradesh	975
Bihar	946
Gujarat	942
Haryana	870
Himachal Pradesh	973
Jammu & Kashmir	892
Karnataka	963
Kerala	1,032
Madhya Pradesh	941
Maharashtra	937
Manipur	971
Meghalaya	954
Nagaland	863
Orissa	981
Punjab	879
Rajasthan	919
Sikkim	835
Tamil Nadu	977

TABLE 4.2—*contd.*

1	2
Tripura	946
Uttar Pradesh	885
West Bengal	911
UNION TERRITORIES	
Andaman & Nicobar Island	760
Arunachal Pradesh	862
Chandigarh	769
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	974
Delhi	808
Goa, Daman & Diu	981
Lakshadweep	975
Mizoram	919
Pondicherry	985

*Excludes Assam, where census work could not be undertaken owing to disturbed conditions that prevailed during the census period.

Among the districts in Mizoram, Aizawl has the highest sex-ratio (934) while Lunglei district has the lowest sex-ratio (881). The sex-ratio of Aizawl district (934) is higher than the sex-ratio (919) of Mizoram. But the sex-ratios of other two districts Lunglei (881) and Chhimtuipui (898) are lower than the sex-ratio of the Union Territory. As mentioned in previous chapter Mizoram was one of the districts in Assam till 1971 census and the comparative statement of district-wise sex-ratios could not be presented for 1971 and 1981 censuses. It was only after the attainment of Union Territory status in 1972, the Mizoram was divided into three districts and the sex-ratios of the districts of Mizoram as per 1981 census are given in table 4.3.

TABLE 4.3

Sex-ratios in the districts of Mizoram as per 1981 census

Name of District	Sex-ratio in 1981
1	2
Aizawl	934
Lunglei	881
Chhimtuipui	898

If we consider the sex-ratio of Urban and Rural populations separately, we find that the disparity between sexes narrows down to some extent in Rural population but widens considerably in the Urban areas. Compared to the sex-ratio 919 of Mizoram, rural sex-ratio (928) is higher than the urban sex-ratio (893). As indicated earlier, there is migration from rural to urban areas and most of the migrants include men than women and hence the sex-ratio of Urban areas is usually lower than the Rural areas. We notice this difference is not only at the State level but also at the district level. The highest sex-ratio (945) in Rural population is found in Aizawl District and the next highest sex-ratio (905) is in Chhimtuipui district. Lunglei district shows the lowest rural sex-ratio of 892. As regards the sex-ratio of Urban populations, Aizawl district has higher sex-ratio than the State figures, while in respect of the other two districts it is lower. Aizawl district has the highest sex-ratio of Urban (907) whereas the other two districts, Lunglei and Chhimtuipui have the similar Urban sex-ratio at 836. The rural and urban sex-ratios of the districts are presented in table 4.4.

TABLE 4.4
Rural and urban sex-ratios in the districts of Mizoram, 1981

State/District	sex-ratio	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
Mizoram	928	893
Aizawl district	945	907
Lunglei district	892	836
Chhimtuipui district	905	836

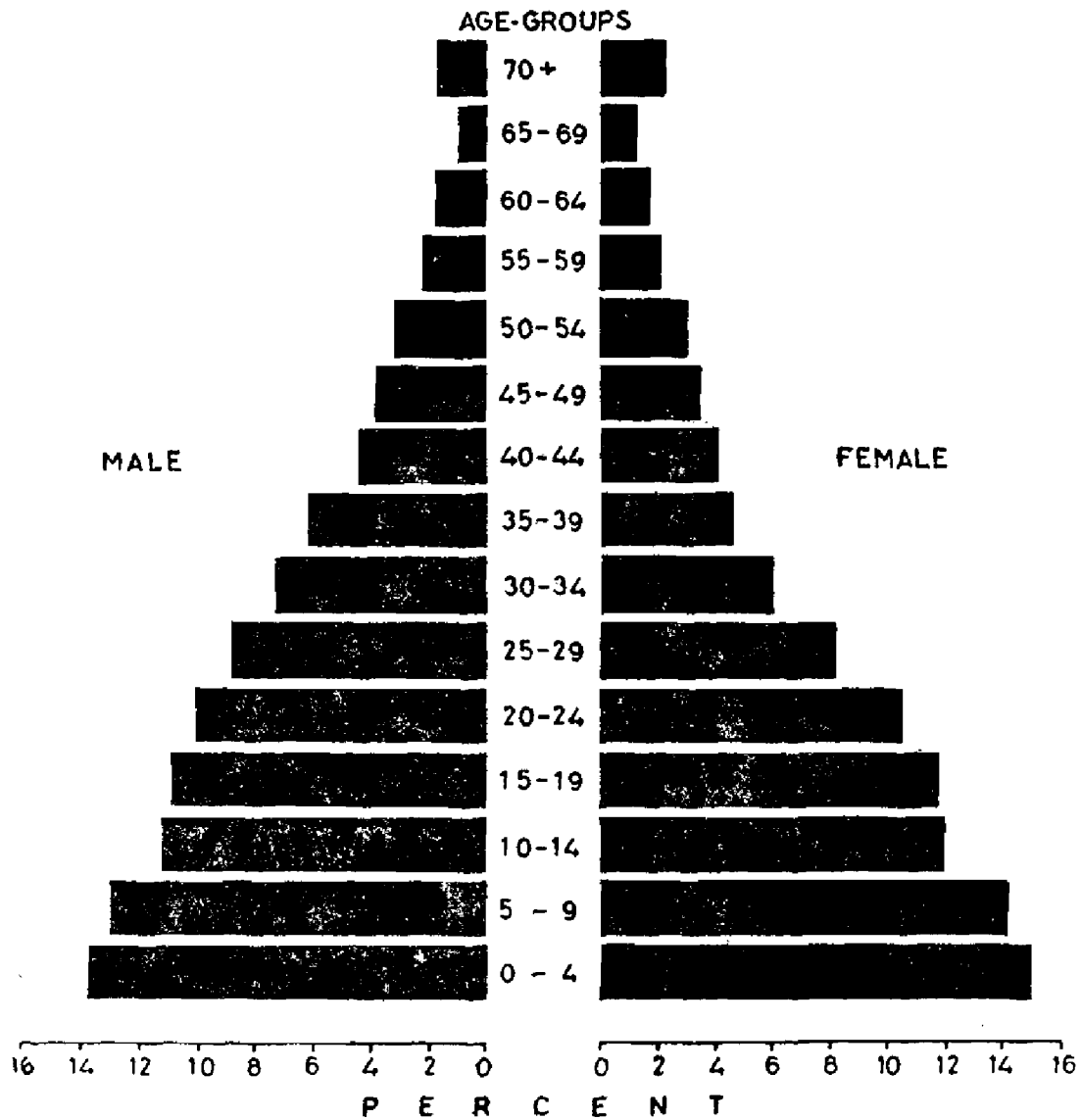
Let us now consider the sex-ratios in respect of the three districts and their Community Development Blocks and towns. Champhai town has a sex-ratio of 987 followed by Serchhip and Kolasib with 934 and 922 respectively. Aizawl has 895 as its sex-ratio and Lunglei and Saiha have the same sex-ratio of 836.

Aizawl district has a sex-ratio of 934. When we study the sex-ratio of Community Development Blocks in Aizawl district, we can find that East Lungdar, Khawzawl, and Serchhip Blocks have maintained a high sex-ratio indicating more females in these three Community Development Blocks. The other Community Development Blocks have maintained lower sex-ratios indicating the presence of more males.

CENSUS OF INDIA 1981

AGE PYRAMID

MIZORAM, 1981



Lunglei district has a sex-ratio of 881. This district is divided into four Community Development Blocks. These four Community Development Blocks did not return high sex-ratios. In each of the Community Development blocks male population is larger than females.

Chhimtuipui district, the smallest district in Mizoram has a sex-ratio of 898. The district is also divided into four Community Development Blocks. If we compare the sex-ratio of these four Community Development Blocks we can find that Sangau Community Block has a high sex-ratio of 1,013 females per 1000 males. Other three Community Development Blocks have lower sex-ratios showing more males than females.

TABLE 4.5

Sex-ratios in Community Development Blocks and towns in the three districts of Mizoram at 1981

District/Community Development Blocks and towns	Sex-ratio
1	2
AIZAWL DISTRICT	934
Community Development Blocks	
Lokicherra	944
West Phileng	727
Reiek	937
North Thingdawl	897
Darlawn	950
Tlangnuam	900
Aibawk	963
Serchhip	1,001
Thingsulthliah	953
Ngopa	987
Khawzawl	1,003
East Lungdar	1,010
Towns	
Aizawl	895
Kolasib	922
Serchhip	934
Champhai	987

TABLE 4.5—*contd.*

1.	2
LUNGLEI DISTRICT	881
Community Development Blocks	
West Bunglemun	834
Lungsen	834
Lunglei	882
Hnahthial	968
Town	
Lunglei town	836
CHHIMTUIPUI DISTRICT	898
Community Development Blocks	
Chawngte	892
Lawngtlai	815
Sangau	1,013
Tuipang	932
Town	
Saiha town	836

Age composition :

The age composition can be studied conveniently in the form of percentage distribution, in which the total population of all ages is made equal to 100 and the relative share of the population falling in each group is expressed as a percentage to the total. Age distribution of Mizoram at 1981 census is presented in the form of Age Pyramid (see diagram). The age structure of the population is not same everywhere. The more developed countries have higher percentage of working force and also old people in their population. Let us divide the population into three functional age groups. (1) Children below 15 years of age (2) Working population between 15-59 years of age (3) Elderly persons of 60 years of age and above. The first group consists of infants between 0-4 years of age and school going children between 5-14 years of age. The workers in a country are drawn from the age group of 15-59 years. Some of them may be still studying and many of them may not be engaged in any occupation. However, they are the potential but unable to work any longer.

Age distribution of population for Mizoram is presented in Table 4.6A.

TABLE 4.6 A

Population by five-year age groups and sex as per 1981 Census for MIZORAM (U.T.)

Age group	Males	Females
1	2	3
0—4	24,541	24,510
5—9	23,432	23,621
10—14	19,863	19,456
15—19	20,054	19,922
20—24	18,053	17,416
25—29	15,021	12,778
30—34	12,297	9,752
35—39	10,380	7,526
40—44	7,942	6,698
45—49	6,698	5,796
50—54	5,703	5,005
55—59	3,858	3,512
60—64	3,070	2,867
65—69	1,782	1,769
70+	3,133	3,611

In the developing countries like India, more than 40 per cent of population is comprised of children below 15 years of age, whereas in the industrialised nations only slightly more than one fourth of the population falls in this age group. In India 0-14 years age group forms 40 percent of the total population. The industrialised nations have substantially more percentage of persons in the working age and old age groups. In our country we have about 6 percent of our people in the older age groups whereas in the industrialised countries like England and France this proportion is as high as 19 percent. As regards the working age group of 15-59 years, in more advance countries the proportion in this group is 60 percent and above while in the developing countries it is 55 percent or even less. The percentage of persons in the working age group in our country is about 54.

Population in the working group in this state forms 55.60 percent as against the country's figure of 53.43 percent. The percentage of population in working group for Mizoram is slightly higher than that of the national level, which indicates a healthier economic life of the people of this state. All the three districts maintain almost the same percentage in this age group. Proportion of young population in Mizoram is 39.58% while that of old forms 4.62%. The total population in the working age group in this State is 2,74,540 and dependent population is 2,19,217. Thus the working population conspicuously out-number the dependant population. Table 4.6 presents percentage distribution of population by age-groups for the state and districts.

TABLE 4.6

Population proportions in age-groups in the districts of Mizoram, at 1981

State/District	Percentage to total pupulation			
	0—4 years	5—14 years	15—59 years	60+ years
1	2	3	4	5
Mizoram	14.33	25.25	55.60	4.62
Aizawl	14.39	25.34	55.28	7.76
Lunglei	14.12	24.60	56.60	4.50
Chhimtuipui	14.26	25.60	55.97	4.05

Now we look at the sex-ratio in the different age groups. We know that the sex-ratio is lower in this State than for the country as a whole. In the young age-group, boys out number girls by 1,258, in the active working age group, males are more by 19,674 and in the old age group females out number males by 293. In the young age-group the excess number of boys is not significant, but in the active working age-group the number of males is quite high. This may be due to the migration of men from outside the State for employment and business. In the age group of 60 years and above, the excess of females indicates that the longevity of females is higher. Under this age group, Lunglei district has highest sex-ratio 1041 as against the state ratio (1026). Table 4.7 gives sex-wise population in different age groups and sex-ratios.

TABLE 4.7

Sex-wise population in different age group with sex-ratios in the districts of Mizoram at per 1981 census

State/District	0—14					15—59					60 years and above				
	Males		Females	Sex-ratio	Males	Females	Sex-ratio	Males	Females	Sex-ratio	Males	Females	Sex-ratio		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
Aizawl	.	67,836	67,587	996	1,00,006	88,404	884	7,986	8,247	1,033					
Lunglei	.	16,992	16,514	972	27,018	21,944	812	1,909	1,987	1,041					
Chhinituipui	.	13,504	12,973	961	20,080	17,092	851	1,375	1,328	966					
Mizoram	.	98,332	97,074	987	1,47,104	1,27,440	866	11,270	11,563	1,026					

NOTE : Exclude age not stated.

CHAPTER 5

HOW MANY OF US CAN READ AND WRITE ?

Literacy is the measure of culture and civilization. No country can call itself civilised unless it provides the education to its people. The information regarding literacy is being collected in every census of our country. The definition of the term 'Literacy' has been more precisely explained in the recent Censuses. In 1981 census, besides literacy, information on educational levels has also been collected through the individual slip. Attempt has also been made to collect the details of degree holders and technical personnel through a card. This Chapter answers to the questions on literacy and level of education. These two answers are highly informative for planning on educational programmes and economic, social and political advancement at State and National levels. According to 1981 census a person who can both read and write with understanding in any language is taken as literate. A person who can merely read but cannot write is not literate. It is not necessary that a person who is literate should have received any formal education or should have passed any minimum educational standard. Ability to sign one's name is not adequate to qualify one as a literate. If a person claims to be literate in some other languages with which the enumerator is not acquainted, the respondent's information has to be taken as correct. Other members of the household may have to testify to the literacy of the person enumerated.

A person can neither read nor write or can merely read but cannot write in any language is treated as illiterate. All children of the age group 0—4 years are treated as illiterate even if the child is attending school and has picked up reading and writing a few odd words.

The educational level attained by a person is decided upon the examination/degree in which he/she passed. For a person who is studying in a particular class, the highest educational level attained by him is the one that he has actually passed and not the one in which he is studying. According to 1981 census, the rate of literacy in this state is 59.88% as against 36.23 percent for India as a whole. Among the States and Union Territories the highest percentage of literacy is found in Kerala (70.42%)

and the lowest in Arunachal Pradesh (20.79%). Among the States while Kerala has the highest literacy percentage (70.42), Rajasthan has the least proportion (24.38%). Among the Union Territories the highest literacy percentage is in Chandigarh (64.79%) and the lowest is in Arunachal Pradesh (20.79%).

The following table shows the percentage of literacy in different States/Union Territories as per 1981 Census with their ranks

TABLE 5.1

Percentage of literacy of States & Union Territories at 1981 census by sex (inclusive of the population in age group 0—4)

State/Union Territory	Ranks	Percentage of literate to total population 1981			Percentage increase in literacy (1971-1981)
		Persons	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5	6
INDIA*	—	36.23	46.89	24.82	22.90
Kerala	1	70.42	75.26	65.73	+16.55
Chandigarh	2	64.79	69.00	59.31	+5.25
Delhi	3	61.54	68.40	53.07	+81.71
Mizoram	4	59.88	64.46	54.91	+11.32
Goa, Daman & Diu	5	56.66	65.59	47.56	+26.61
Pondicherry	6	55.85	65.84	45.71	+21.36
Lakshadweep	7	55.07	65.24	44.65	+26.13
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8	51.56	58.72	42.14	+18.28
Maharashtra	9	47.18	58.79	34.79	+20.42
Tamil Nadu	10	46.76	58.26	34.99	+18.50
Gujarat	11	43.70	54.44	32.30	+22.10
Nagaland	12	42.57	50.06	33.89	+55.36
Himachal Pradesh	13	42.48	53.19	31.46	+32.92
Tripura	14	42.12	51.70	32.00	+35.96
Manipur	15	41.35	53.29	29.06	+25.65
West Bengal	16	40.94	50.67	30.25	+23.31
Punjab	17	40.86	47.16	33.69	+21.35
Karnataka	18	38.46	48.81	27.71	+22.02
Haryana	19	36.14	48.20	22.27	+34.40
Orissa	20	34.23	47.10	21.12	+30.75
Meghalaya	21	34.08	37.89	30.08	+15.56

TABLE 5.1—*Contd.*

1	2	3	4	5	6
Sikkim	22	34.05	43.95	22.20	+ 91.94
Andhra Pradesh	23	29.94	39.26	20.39	+ 21.86
Madhya Pradesh	24	27.87	39.49	15.53	+ 25.88
Uttar Pradesh	25	27.16	38.76	14.04	+ 25.16
Jammu & Kashmir	26	26.67	36.29	15.88	+ 43.54
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	27	26.67	36.32	16.68	+ 78.16
Bihar	28	26.20	38.11	13.62	+ 31.39
Rajasthan	29	24.38	36.30	11.42	+ 27.84
Arunachal Pradesh	30	20.79	28.94	11.32	+ 84.15

NOTE : Excludes Assam where Census could not be taken owing to disturbed conditions that prevailed during the census period.

According to 1971 Census, Kerala and Chandigarh occupied first position in achieving the literacy rate of 60.42% and 61.56% respectively among the States and Union Territories. Arunachal Pradesh, an Union territory had the lowest literacy rate (11.29%) at 1971. In 1981, the highest position in literacy rate has been achieved by Kerala (70.42%) while Chandigarh (U. T.) stood second at 64.79%. The lowest position in literacy is in respect of Rajasthan among the States and in Arunachal Pradesh among Union Territories. The percentage increase of literacy during 71-81 has been the highest (+91.94) in Sikkim and next highest (+84.15) is in Arunachal Pradesh and the lowest increase is in respect of Chandigarh (U. T.) (5.25%) preceded by Delhi U. T. which is a highly urbanised area. It can be noticed that among the States, Kerala has a pre-eminent position with regard to literacy and has held the highest position both in 1971 and 1981.

The disparities in proportions literate among the States are due to improper distribution of educational facilities among rural and urban areas and varied population sizes in respective states. Urban areas always have higher proportion of literacy compared to rural areas and among Urban areas, the Towns and Cities have higher percentage of literacy. This is due to the fact that big Cities have more facilities for higher education and have more employment opportunities. The results of 1981 Census for India show that 65.83% males and 47.82% females are literate in Urban areas and 40.79% males and 17.96% females are literate in Rural areas.

The following table presents the literacy rates for 1971 and 1981 by age and sex for both Rural and Urban areas for All India.

TABLE 5.2

Literacy rates (per cent) by age and sex for Rural and Urban areas in India (1971 and 1981)

Age-group	Total Urban Rural	Persons		Males		Females	
		1971	1981	1971	1981	1971	1981
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
All ages	Total	29.48	36.23	39.52	46.89	18.70	24.82
	Rural	23.69	29.65	33.76	40.79	13.08	17.96
	Urban	52.37	57.40	61.24	65.83	42.05	47.82
5—9	Total	23.21	30.56	27.27	35.05	18.90	25.79
	Rural	18.29	25.03	22.76	30.09	13.54	19.63
	Urban	44.93	50.93	47.09	53.35	42.62	48.36
10—14	Total	49.79	56.59	60.06	66.90	38.16	44.85
	Rural	43.16	50.16	54.89	62.42	29.83	36.44
	Urban	76.18	78.09	80.85	82.35	70.97	73.39
15—19	Total	51.39	55.37	63.48	66.12	37.66	43.28
	Rural	43.67	47.74	57.41	60.36	28.31	33.66
	Urban	76.68	76.86	82.75	82.15	69.42	70.40
20—24	Total	44.70	52.02	60.70	66.54	28.69	37.18
	Rural	36.10	43.11	53.17	59.53	20.03	27.16
	Urban	71.09	74.71	81.19	82.93	58.89	65.16
25—34	Total	34.76	45.10	50.15	60.72	19.29	28.96
	Rural	27.29	36.25	42.74	53.06	12.47	19.64
	Urban	61.52	69.50	74.05	80.22	46.59	56.98
35 & above	Total	25.16	30.18	37.97	44.61	10.75	14.44
	Rural	19.40	23.17	31.23	37.96	6.47	8.62
	Urban	49.33	54.25	64.47	69.42	30.18	35.91

In 1981, the literacy rate in the Urban areas of India is 57.40 percent as compared to 29.65% in the Rural areas. The literacy rate in urban areas is higher than that of the Rural areas in the case of both males and females but the differential is particularly noticeable in all the age groups for females.

The literacy rate has gone up in all the age groups from 1971 to 1981. The literacy rate in the age group 5-9 may not be quite reliable and may be subjected to some variability because children in this age group specially in the lower level of education may not be attending school or even if attending the school, they may not have been reported as literate by their parents who are usually the respondents in the Census. Even then the rate in this age group has gone up during the decade.

In the age group 10-14, 56.59 percent are literates as recorded in 1981 Census as against 49.79 percent in 1971. In this age group, 78.09 percent are literate in the Urban areas and 50.16 percent in the Rural areas in 1981. In this age group 66.90 percent of the males are literates while only 44.85 percent females are literates. The Rural—Urban differential exists in the case of males and females in this age group, the differential being particularly noticeable among females. In the Urban areas 73.39 percent of the females in this age group are literate as against only 36.44 percent in the Rural areas in 1981. The significant difference in literacy rates among males and females in this age group in the Rural areas can be noticed, the rates being 62.42 percent among males while 36.44 percent among females respectively in 1981.

The lower literacy rates in the case of females in the Rural areas is noticeable in the higher age groups also. It is particularly noticeable that in the age group of 35 and above at 1981 census where, in the rural areas only 8.62 percent of females are literate as against 37.96 percent in the case of males.

When we study separately the growth rate of literates in the last decade (1971-81) this growth rate stood at 65.38 percent for Mizoram as against the growth rate of 53.23 percent for all India.

As already mentioned the literacy percentage in 1981 of Mizoram state is 59.88, whereas among the three districts, Aizawl district tops the list with 65.09% followed by Lunglei district with 56.89% and Chhimitui district with 37.07%. If we study the growth rate among the literates during the last decade (1971-1981), we see that the growth rate among the literates in respect of Aizawl district shows spectacular

progress with 56.07% compared to State's growth rate of 65.38%. Of course Chhimtuipui district recorded the highest growth rate in the number of literates during 71-81 with 117.83%. Table 5.3 presents the literacy rate and growth rate of literates during 1971-81.

TABLE 5.3

Percentage literate at 71 and 81 censuses and growth in the number of literate during 71-81

State/Districts	Literacy rate /percent)		Growth of literates (percent 1971-1981)
	1971	1981	
1	2	3	4
Mizoram	53.79	59.88	65.38
Aizawl district	58.31	65.09	66.07
Lunglei district	54.56	56.89	45.17
Chhimtuipui district	27.47	37.07	117.83

Kerala is the most advanced State in literacy with 76.11 percent literacy rate in the Urban areas. Mizoram State has also returned almost similar proportions of literates in the Urban areas with a literacy rate of 74.27 percent. The difference between male and female literacy in urban Mizoram is not conspicuous as shown in Table 5.4 presented below.

TABLE 5.4

Percentage of literacy in urban areas of Mizoram as per 1981 Census

Towns	Percentage of literate to total Population		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
MIZORAM (URBAN)	74.27	77.61	70.42
Kolasib	67.02	70.40	63.36
Aizawl	76.46	78.96	73.66
Serchhip	71.09	75.90	65.93
Champhai	71.76	75.32	68.16
Lunglei	74.10	77.83	69.64
Salha	62.37	69.37	54.00

In Mizoram State the history of education can be traced from about half a century. Prior to independence there were only few Primary and Middle schools. But all High Schools were established after independence. The first College was established in June 1958 in Aizawl with its name as 'Aijal College'. The Christian Missionaries were often the pioneers in setting up Schools in some parts of Mizoram. Most of the Schools then were established by Missionaries. But when Mizoram was made as one of the Districts of Assam on 25th April, 1952, most of the Schools were taken up and were provincialised slowly by the Government. The State has made tremendous progress in the field of education in the past years, specially after Mizoram became an Union Territory in 1972. According to the information from District Census Hand Book of 1981 Census, there are 7 Colleges, 134 High Schools, 347 Middle Schools, 844 Primary Schools and 63 Adult Literacy Centres in Mizoram.

Among the three Districts, Aizawl is considered to be the most literate District followed by Lunglei and Chhimtuipui. Table 5.5 gives literacy rates recorded in Community Development Blocks at 1981 Census. From the Table it will be observed that the remote Community Development Blocks are having lower literacy rates than the Community Development Blocks near the Towns.

TABLE 5.5

District/Community Development Block-wise break-up of literacy rates in Mizoram at 1981 Census

Rank of literacy in District	District/C.D. Block							Literacy rate percent
1	2							3
	AIZAWL DISTRICT							65.09
1	Tlangnuam	.	.	.	.	.	.	75.95
2	Thingsulthliah	.	.	.	.	.	.	68.00
3	Aibawk	.	.	.	.	.	.	66.43
4	Reiek	.	.	.	.	.	.	65.13
5	North Thingdawl	.	.	.	.	.	.	64.87
6	Serchhip	.	.	.	.	.	.	64.55
7	Darlawn	.	.	.	.	.	.	64.45
8	East Lungdar	.	.	.	.	.	.	63.59

TABLE 5.5—*Contd.*

1	2	3
9	Ngopa	61·46
10	Khawzawl	61·29
11	Lokicherra	49·68
12	West Phialeng	32·20
	LUNGLEI DISTRICT	56·89
1	Hnahthial	65·03
2	Lunglei	62·14
3	West Bunghmun	46·28
4	Lungsen	37·59
	CHHIMTUIPUI DISTRICT	37·07
1	Sangau	52·69
2	Lawngtlai	39·09
3	Tuipang	36·60
4	Chawngte	15·88

We may sum up this chapter by saying that 36 percent population of India are literate while 60 percent of the population of Mizoram are literate as per the 1981 Census.

CHAPTER 6

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

In the 1981 Census a new question on the 'Language mainly spoken in the Household' was asked in the Household Schedule along with the two usual language questions on 'mother tongue' and 'other languages known' in the Individual Slip. The institutional households which are linguistically heterogeneous and may or may not have a uniform household language are excluded from these data. Out of the total population of 4,93,757 in the Union Territory, the institutional population is only 17,318 constituting 3.51 per cent.

Question 5 on 'Language mainly spoken in the household' in the Household Schedule was canvassed in all the households other than institutional households. The raw returns were rather unusually large. All these returns were scrutinized following usual linguistic methods including studying 'Language specimens' and undertaking field investigations.

The distribution of the 1981 household population by languages grouped into scheduled languages and languages other than scheduled are shown in alphabetical order in parts A and B of Table 6.1.

TABLE 6.1 Part A

Statement showing the speakers of Household population by language mainly spoken in the Household (inclusive of variants grouped under each) specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India

Sl. No.	Language	Number of speakers
1	2	3
1.	Assamese	378
2.	Bengali	39,494
3.	Gujarati	..
4.	Hindi	2,313
5.	Kannada	22
6.	Kashmiri	8
7.	Malayalam	532
8.	Marathi	51
9.	Oriya	13

TABLE 6.1 PART A—Contd.

1	2	3
10. Punjabi		131
11. Sanskrit		..
12. Sindhi		4
13. Tamil		108
14. Telugu		90
15. Urdu		379

TABLE 6.1 Part B

Statement showing the speakers of Household population by languages mainly spoken in the Household (inclusive of Variants where grouped), other than those specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India

Sl. No.	Language	Name of speakers
1	2	3
1. Bhili/Bhilodi		162
2. Bodo/Boro		32
3. Coorgi/Kodagu		2
4. Dogri		16
5. English		62
6. Garo		11
7. Gorkhali/Nepali		5983
8. Hmar		4,233
9. Khasi		297
10. Kurukhi/Oraon		4
11. Ladakhi		4
12. Lahauli		3
13. Lushai/Mizo		369,665
14. Lakher		15,708
15. Manipur//Meitei		267
16. Mogh		164
17. Naga		17
18. Paito		1,764
19. Santali		230
20. Sema		3
21. Tibetan		83
22. Thado		96
23. Tangsa		1
24. Tripuri		20,146
25. Vaiphei		11
26. Other languages		13,640

Out of the total household population (excluding institutional household population, of 476,439 in the Union Territory, 43,523 are the speakers of schedule VIII languages constituting 9.14 per cent and 432,916 are the speakers of other languages constituting 90.86 percent to total household population.

In both parts A & B of the table variants have been grouped in some cases under the relevant languages. This has been done on the basis of linguistic information readily available or in the light of studies already made. These identifiable variants which returned 10,000 or more speakers each at all-India level and have been grouped under parts A and B languages are shown below:

Part A	:	.	.	Bengali	Chakma
				Hindi	
Part B	:	.	.	Bhili/Bhilodi	Mawchi
				Tripuri	Reang

All other returns falling under Part B and which returned less than 10,000 speakers each at the All-India level or were not linguistically identifiable are included in the Category 'other' occurring as the last entry in Part B.

CHAPTER 7

RELIGION WE FOLLOW

There is no specific State Religion in our Country. Every Citizen is free to profess any religion which satisfies his conscience. As the Government does not patronize any particular religion, India is known as secular state. In a secular, democratic, Republic like India, several religions have thrived from time to time. How these religions came into existence?. The answer to this question can be traced from our past history. However, it was India where the effective intermingling took place in socio-cultural aspects due to arrival of different rulers from different parts of the world from time to time with new thoughts and religious beliefs. Any how it is heartening to note that our country still remains to be secular.

Religion plays a very important role in the life of a country because it influences its citizens in many aspects. Till 1941 Census data regarding age, sex and literacy was collected separately for persons professing various religions. Since 1951 Census, only the total population under each religion is shown.

The Census of 1981 listed six principal religions, namely, Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Sikhism and Jainism. Religions other than the six categories came under the category of 'other religions and persuasions'. During enumeration period some persons stated that they profess no religion and they were categorised under the head 'religion not stated'. The limitation of data on religion at 1981 Census should be known.

In the 1981 census, question on religion was included in the individual slip filled in for every person and in the Household Schedule filled in for a household. In question number 8 of the Individual slip, the religion of the person enumerated was recorded, as returned. In question No. 2 of part I of the Household Schedule, the religion of the head of the household as returned was filled in.

A household is defined for the purpose of census as a group of persons who commonly live together and would take their meals from a common kitchen unless the exigencies of work prevented any of them from doing so. There could be a household of persons related by blood or a household of un-

related persons or a mix of both. Examples of unrelated households are boarding houses, messes, hostels, residential hostels, rescue homes, jails, ashrams, etc. These are called institutional households. In the case of institutional households the information on religion of the head of the household was not collected in the Household Schedule. However, the information on religion of each inmate of the institutional household was collected in the Individual slip filled in by the enumerator for every person in the Institutional household.

The head of the household for census purposes is the person on whom the chief responsibility for the maintenance of the household falls.

The data on religious communities have been compiled from the answers to questions in the household schedule of 1981 census. The data is based on (i) information on the religion of head of the household in respect of normal households, and the households of houseless population i.e. all households barring institutional households and the information on the religion of each individual returned for question 8 of the individual slip in respect of individuals in the institutional Households.

The following table provides information regarding the different religious groups in India at 1981 census.

TABLE 7.1

Population of different religious groups in India and their proportions to total population at 1981

Religions	Population	Percentage to total population
HINDUS	549,779,481	82.64
MUSLIMS	75,512,439	11.35
CHRISTIANS	16,165,447	2.43
SIKHS	13,078,146	1.97
BUDDHISTS	4,719,796	0.71
JAINS	3,206,038	0.48
OTHER RELIGIONS AND PERSUASIONS	2,766,285	0.42
RELIGION NOT STATED	60,217	Negligible
TOTAL*	665,287,849	100.00

NOTE : *Excludes the population of Assam where the Census could not be held owing to disturbed conditions prevailing there.

Source : Paper 1 of 1984, Household population by religion of/Head of household.

Prior to 1890, Mizoram was a land of animism. But at present Mizos are not following this belief. Most of the people belong to Christianity. Before they were converted into Christianity, they were performing sacrifices by killing animals like pigs, fowls, dogs, etc., for different ceremonies. In the old religious doctrine Mizos believed in one supreme God called the 'PATHIAN' who is the lord over the men and RAMHUI (demons) who inhabit the streams, the hills and the trees. They believed that the Ramhui were the evil spirits which were responsible for all their illness in this world. They had to be propitiated for health, good harvest and general well being. The magic doctors or sorcerers in the villages who were called 'Puithiam', offered sacrifices to these 'Ramhuais' according to certain scales. They also believed that after death the soul goes to 'Pialral' or 'Mitthi Khua'. They believed that in 'Pialral' all comforts were available in plenty. Rice was in abundance and plenty and the life was so luxurious. The people who had hunted a number of wild animals and had given number of feasts will go to 'Pialral' where they will live in comfort and happiness in life. However, those who had not done good deeds will live in 'Mitthi Khua' which was a place of sorrow and was supposed to be located in the Lake called 'Rih' in Burma near Champhai, a border village of Mizoram. Depending on the deeds and after staying in these places for some time, the spirit is reborn in this world.

At the 1981 census about 84 percent of the Mizoram population are found to be Christians. The following table gives the number of followers of different religions in Mizoram and their proportion to total population.

TABLE 7.2

Composition of different religious groups in the population of Mizoram and their proportions to total population

Religion	Population	Percentage of total population
Christian	413,840	83.81
Buddhist	40,429	8.19
Hindu	35,245	7.14
Muslim	2,205	0.45
Sikh	421	0.09
Jain	11	Negligible
Other Religion and Persuasions	1,606	0.32
Religion not stated	Nil	Nil

TABLE 7.3

District-wise distribution of religion-wise population at 1981 census

Religion	Mizoram		Aizawl District		Lunglei District		Chhittuipui District	
	Population	Percentage to total population	Population	Percentage to total population	Population	Percentage to total population	Population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Buddhist	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Christian	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Hindu	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Jain	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Muslim	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sikhs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other Religion and Persuasions	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	40,429	8.19	7,856	2.31	13,748	15.89	18,825	28.34
	4,13,840	83.81	3,03,714	89.11	66,103	76.41	44,023	66.28
	35,245	7.14	26,108	7.66	6,287	7.27	2,850	4.29
	11	Nil	11	Nil	..	..	..	..
	2,205	0.45	1,857	0.54	250	0.29	98	0.15
	421	0.09	306	0.09	74	0.08	41	0.06
	1,606	0.32	974	0.29	49	0.06	583	0.88

The religion data of 1981 Census shows that Mizoram is the only part of the country where the Christian population is more than 83 per cent. Next to Mizoram is Nagaland. In Nagaland 80.21 per cent of total population are Christians. Other States and Union Territories, having 20 per cent or more Christians are Meghalaya (31.56), Manipur (29.67), Goa, Daman and Diu (29.28), Andaman and Nicobar Island (25.57) and Kerala (20.03).

Buddhists and Hindus form 8.19 and 7.14 per cent of the population in Mizoram. The followers of other religions such as Muslims, Sikhs and Jains form a very small portion of total population of the Union Territory. The bulk of the population of these religious communities live in urban areas. The following table shows the district-wise distribution of population by religion and their proportions in the total population at 1981 Census.

(Table No. 7.3 may be seen at page 58)

The above table shows the religious composition at the district level. It clearly indicates the figures of percentage of each religious community to total population in each district. It has been mentioned earlier that, the Christian population constitute 83.81 per cent to total population in Mizoram. This means that most of the people in Mizoram follow Christianity. In the three districts of Mizoram, Christian population ranges between 66.28% to 89.11%, the highest being in Aizawl district and the lowest in Chhimtuipui district. Buddhist population is concentrated in Lunglei and Chhimtuipui districts. While Hindu, Muslim and Sikh populations are concentrated in Aizawl district. Persons belonging to other religions and persuasions mostly live in Aizawl and Chhimtuipui districts. It is of interest to know the distribution of population by religion in the urban areas of Mizoram. There are six towns in Mizoram and the distribution of their population by religion at 1981 is presented in the following table.

(Table No. 7.4 may be seen at page 60)

Majority of the urban population are Christians ranging between 87.25% to 97.58%. Champhai town has returned the highest proportion of Christians. The proportion of Hindu population is more in Lunglei town with 11.85%. Proportion of Muslim population is less than 2% and is highest in Aizawl with 1.21%. Sikh population is very negligible in the urban areas.

TABLE 7.4

Distribution of population by religion in all the six towns of Mizoram at 1981 census

Religion	Population & per- centage to total population of Kolasib town (in brackets)	Population & per- centage to total population of Aizawl town (in brackets)	Population & per- centage to total population of Serchhip town (in brackets)	Population & per- centage to total population of Champhai town (in brackets)	Population & per- centage to total population of Lunglei town (in brackets)	Population & per- centage to total population of Saiha town (in brackets)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
All religion	8,282	74,493	7,392	7,487	17,205	7,018
Buddhist	..	8 (N)	8 (N)	2 (0.02)	31 (0.18)	14 (0.19)
Christian	7,508 (90.65)	65,943 (88.52)	7,018 (95.75)	7,306 (97.58)	15,013 (87.25)	6,643 (94.65)
Hindu	653 (7.88)	7,376 (9.90)	287 (3.91)	149 (1.99)	2,040 (11.85)	317 (4.51)
Jain	..	11 (0.01)	..	..	..	..
Muslim	52 (0.62)	905 (1.21)	14 (0.19)	22 (0.29)	105 (0.61)	43 (0.61)
Sikh	4 (0.04)	156 (0.20)	2 (0.02)	4 (0.05)	16 (0.09)	1 (N)
Other Religions & Persuasions	65	64	..	4	..	..
Religion not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..

‘N’—Negligible.

CHAPTER 8

SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

The Directive Principles of State Policy in Part 4 of the Indian Constitution, envisages that "The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and in particular, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and shall protect them from Social injustice and all forms of exploitation".

The diversity of our country's population is reflected by the presence of hundreds of castes and tribes, dozens of major languages and hundreds of dialects. Almost every religion in this world has its representation in India. The Scheduled Castes, commonly known as the depressed classes of the Hindu society, faced various socio-economic and political sufferings in the hands of higher castes for long time. Till 1935, these Castes were generally known as depressed classes. Dr. J. H. Hutton, the then Census Commissioner of India in 1931, systematically listed these depressed classes and they appeared for the first time in the Government of India Act, 1935. In order to continue and extend the anthropological investigations initiated by Sir Edward Plowden, the then Census Commissioner of 1881, Dr. J. H. Hutton made the first serious attempt to list these primitive tribes at the Census of 1931. These Tribal Communities received special mention for the first time in Government of India Act, 1935, where a reference was made to the depressed classes. The specification of Tribes and Tribal Communities as Scheduled Tribes was finally made in the Constitution of India.

According to the Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution, the President of India is empowered to specify the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for each State and Union Territory. The names of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for each State or Local area are listed under a Presidential Order. These Communities are treated as Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes as the case may be according to that order. The list containing the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes is placed below pertaining to Mizoram :

The list Containing the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Mizoram
Scheduled Castes

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Bansphor | 2. Bhuinmalim Mali |
| 3. Brittial Bania, Bania | 4. Dhupi, Dhobi |
| 5. Dugla, Dholi | 6. Hira |
| 7. Jalkeot | 8. Jhalo, Malo, Jhalo-Malo |
| 9. Kaibartta, Jaliya | 10. Lalbegi |
| 11. Mahara | 12. Mehtar, Bhanghi |
| 13. Muchi, Rishi | 14. Namasudra |
| 15. Patni | 16. Sutradhar |

Scheduled Tribes

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Chakma | 2. Dimasa, Kachari |
| 3. Garo | 4. Hajong |
| 5. Hmar | 6. Khasi, Jaintia, Synteng, Pnar, War, Bhoi, Lyngngam. |
| 7. Any Kuki tribes, including | |
| (i) Biate, Biete | (ii) Changsan |
| (iii) Chongloi | (iv) DOUNGEL |
| (v) Gamalhou | (vi) Gangte |
| (vii) Guite | (viii) Hanneng |
| (ix) Haokip, Haupt | (x) Haolai |
| (xi) Hengna | (xii) Hongsungh |
| (xiii) Hrangkhawl, Rangkhoh | (xiv) Jongbe |
| (xv) Khawchung | (xvi) Khawathlang, Khottha-long |
| (xvii) Khelma | (xviii) Kholhou |
| (xix) Kipgen | (xx) Kuki |
| (xxi) Lengthang | (xxii) Lhangum |
| (xxiii) Lhoujem | (xxiv) Lhouvun |
| (xxv) Lumpheng | (xxvi) Mangjel |
| (xxvii) Misao | (xxviii) Rieng |
| (xxix) Sairhem | (xxx) Sefnam |
| (xxxi) Singson | (xxxi) Sithou |
| (xxxii) Sakte | (xxxiv) Thado |
| (xxxv) Thangngan | (xxxvi) Uibuh |
| (xxxvii) Vaiphei | |
| 8. Lakhher | 9. Man (Tai speaking) |
| 10. Any Mizo (Lushai) Tribes | 11. M'kir |
| 12. Any Naga Tribes | 13. Pawi |
| 14. Synteng. | |

A number of Castes and Tribes are in existence in India. A large number of nomads also came to India from various parts of the world. Many conquerors have established their dynasties. Due to gradual intermingling, new Castes and Tribes have formed in gradation. The association of a Caste with a particular occupation has given rise to the conclusion that the origin of a caste is merely on occupational differentiation. In the beginning all these Castes were said to be equal. It was only later, these Castes were formed on the basis of occupation. Some Castes among them were treated inferior to other.

There exists a number of tribal communities in India. Some of them still maintain their primitive social customs and rituals. Their remote habitations, pursuits of food, scant clothing, primitive way of living, innocent and simplicity made them further backward. These native people are keeping themselves isolated, remained extremely backward and ignorant over the centuries. However, forests, streams, pastures and hills have all contributed to the preservation of their Tribal culture which passionately clings its ways of life.

One hundred million people in India, as per 1981 Census, belong to Scheduled Castes comprising 15.75 percent of the population in our country. Punjab has the highest proportion of Scheduled Castes population to total population. The Tribal population of India according to 1981 Census was 51 million accounting for 7.76 per cent of the total population. If we examine further it can be found that Scheduled Castes have the highest proportion in case of Punjab (26.87%) followed by Himachal Pradesh (24.62%). Mizoram has the second highest Tribal population consisting of 93.55 per cent of the State's total population, while Lakshadweep has the highest proportion of Scheduled Tribe population with 93.82 per cent to total. Third place has gone to Nagaland where 83.99 per cent of the total population belongs to Scheduled Tribe.

The exact Tribal population according to 1981 Census in Mizoram is 461,907, which works out to be 93.55 per cent of the State population. Of the total Tribal population, 353,436 live in villages and the remaining 108,471 in towns. In our country, almost the bulk of the Tribal population live in Rural areas.

Table 8.1 (Page 64) presents percentage distribution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population in different States/Union Territories in our country as per 1981 Census.

TABLE 8.1

Percentage distribution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population in the different States/Union territories as per 1981 Census

Country/State/Union Territories	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
INDIA	15.75	17.34	10.63	7.76	9.54	2.03
1. Andhra Pradesh	14.87	16.44	9.68	5.93	7.25	1.58
2. Bihar	14.51	15.17	9.86	8.31	8.90	4.15
3. Gujarat	7.15	6.99	7.52	14.22	19.13	3.35
4. Haryana	19.07	20.73	13.12	..	..	..
5. Himachal Pradesh	24.62	25.22	17.34	4.61	4.91	0.96
6. Jammu & Kashmir*	8.31	9.31	4.55	..	..	..
7. Karnataka	15.07	16.54	11.43	4.91	6.02	2.19
8. Kerala	10.02	10.83	6.48	1.03	1.24	0.10
9. Madhya Pradesh	14.10	14.52	12.45	22.97	27.78	4.10
10. Maharashtra	7.14	7.52	6.43	9.19	12.67	2.74
11. Manipur	1.25	1.42	0.79	27.30	32.79	12.03
12. Meghalaya	0.41	0.27	1.05	80.58	86.13	55.36
13. Nagaland	..	..	..	83.99	89.70	52.91
14. Orissa	14.66	15.06	11.68	22.43	24.25	8.77
15. Punjab	26.87	30.20	18.19	..	..	..
16. Rajasthan	17.04	17.71	14.54	12.21	14.89	2.16
17. Sikkim	5.78	5.41	7.67	23.27	23.60	21.54
18. Tamil Nadu	18.35	21.85	11.23	1.07	1.45	0.32
19. Tripura	15.12	15.91	8.67	28.44	31.53	3.40
20. Uttar Pradesh	21.16	23.09	12.33	0.21	0.24	0.06
21. West Bengal	21.99	26.19	10.31	5.63	7.36	0.80
UNION TERRITORIES						
1. Andaman & Nicobar Island	..	..	..	11.85	15.88	0.55
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0.46	0.33	2.36	69.82	73.02	24.28
3. Chandigarh	14.09	23.68	13.43	..	..	..
4. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.97	1.88	3.23	78.82	81.57	40.30
5. Delhi	18.03	23.00	17.64	..	..	..
6. Goa, Daman & Diu	2.16	1.92	2.66	0.99	1.12	0.71

TABLE 8.1—*concl'd.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7. Lakshadweep . . .	..	..	..	93.82	96.61	90.57
8. Mizoram . . .	0.03	0.03	0.03	93.55	95.02	89.05
9. Pondicherry . . .	15.99	21.68	10.79	..	..	..

*Excludes the population of areas under unlawful occupation of Pakistan and China where Census could not be taken.

From 1951 Census onwards the Census questionnaires contained items to ascertain whether the respondent belonged to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe and if yes, the name of caste/tribe to which he belonged, with a view to collect information for discharging the constitutional obligations towards these communities.

The statutory lists of scheduled castes/scheduled tribes are notified in pursuance of Article 341 and 342 of the constitution. The lists of scheduled caste/scheduled tribe were notified for the first time under the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Part C States) Order, 1951. These lists have been modified and amended or supplemented from time to time. On the reorganisation of the States, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes lists (Modification) Order came into force from 20th October, 1956. Thereafter a few orders specifying scheduled castes/scheduled tribes in respect of a few individual States also came into force. Later, The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Amendment Act, 1976 came into force. The main purpose of this Amendment Act was to remove area restrictions in respect of most of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Amendment Act, 1976 did not include the lists of scheduled castes/scheduled tribes in respect of States/Union Territories like Chandigarh, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir and Pondicherry, etc., which were not effected by the Act. In 1981 Census, each enumerator was furnished with a list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in relation to his State/Union Territory as notified under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976 and other relevant Acts and Orders. If the person enumerated belonged to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe he/she was recorded as such. If the person belonging to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe returned, his/her caste or tribe, he/she was reckoned as scheduled caste or scheduled

tribe only if the names were found in the list furnished to the enumerator covering that area in the State/U.T. If the person merely claimed to be Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, but said that he/she did not belong to any of the Notified Communities applicable to the area as reflected in the list supplied to the enumerator, he/she was not reckoned as belonging to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe. Scheduled Caste can belong to Hindu or Sikh religion, whereas Scheduled Tribes can belong to any religion.

No caste was notified as Scheduled Caste for Nagaland, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep and no tribe was notified as Scheduled Tribe for Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi and Pondicherry. Percentage of members of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe in total rural and urban areas to the total population has been given in Table 8.1 (Page 64) presented earlier.

If we study the general characteristics of tribal population in our country, we find that they prefer to live in rural areas but if we look at the table of the percentage distribution of Scheduled Tribe in Rural/Urban areas of our States, we find that the Tribals occupy a predominant position in Urban areas. The majority of inhabitants of Mizoram belong to Scheduled Tribe. There is some scheduled caste population also who are migrated from other States for business and employment purposes. Table 8.2 shows the percentage distribution of scheduled tribe population in the Districts of Mizoram.

TABLE 8.2

Percentage distribution of scheduled tribe population in rural and urban areas in the total population at 1981 in the District of Mizoram

State/District	Scheduled Tribes		
	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
Mizoram	93.55	95.02	89.05
Aizawl	93.92	95.81	89.20
Lunglei	92.02	93.42	86.38
Chhimituipui	93.66	93.70	93.37

It may be mentioned that Mizoram is more or less a tribal state. As mentioned earlier, there are 461,907 persons belonging to Scheduled Tribe in Mizoram which constitute 93.55 per cent to the total population, whereas there is only 135 Scheduled Caste population in this State which constitutes 0.03 per cent to the total population. The literacy percentage of Scheduled tribes is not higher than the state literacy rate. While the state literacy rate is 59.88 per cent, the Scheduled Tribe literacy rate is 59.63 per cent. The literacy percentage in case of Scheduled Caste is much higher than State and even Scheduled Tribe. The percentage of literacy of Scheduled Caste is 84.44. Table 8.3 presents literacy rates among the general population, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe populations in Mizoram, at 1971 and 1981.

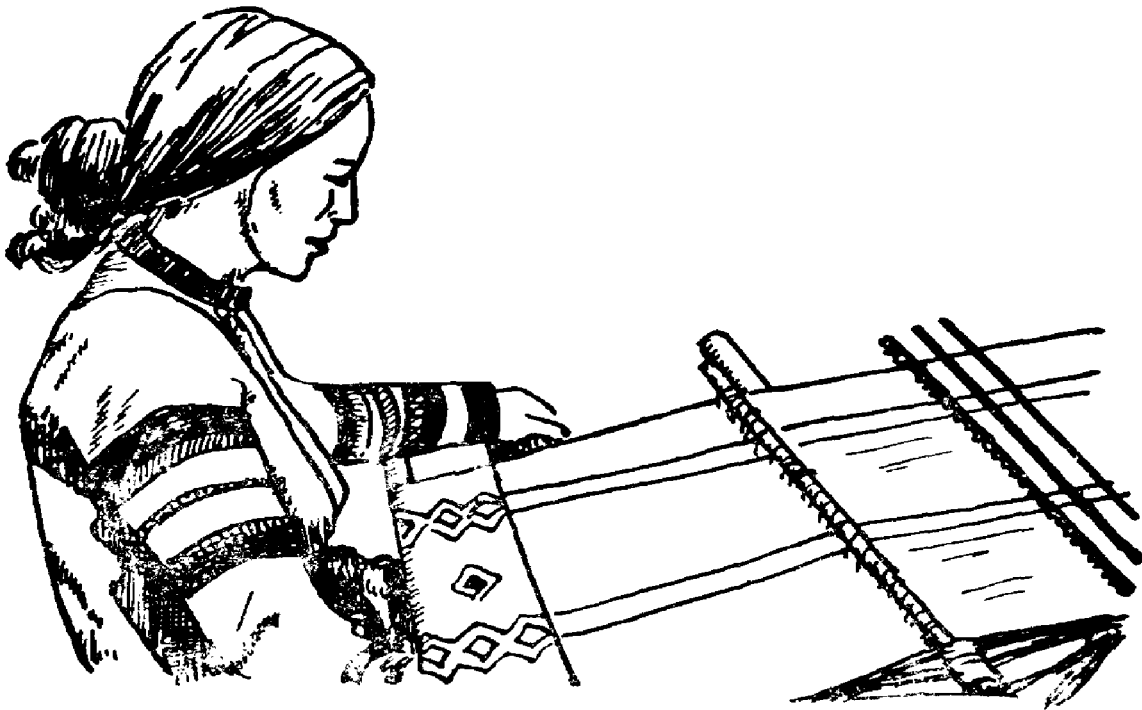
TABLE 8.3

Literacy rates (including 0-4 age group population) at 1971 and 1981 Census in Mizoram.

Population	1971			1981		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
General Population .	53.79	60.49	46.71	59.88	64.46	54.91
Scheduled Castes .	25.60	25.60	..	84.44	88.33	53.33
Scheduled Tribes .	53.49	60.23	46.88	59.63	64.12	55.12



A Mizo father enjoys his tobacco pipe. Tobacco is grown in Mizoram and pipes are made of a particular type of bamboo.



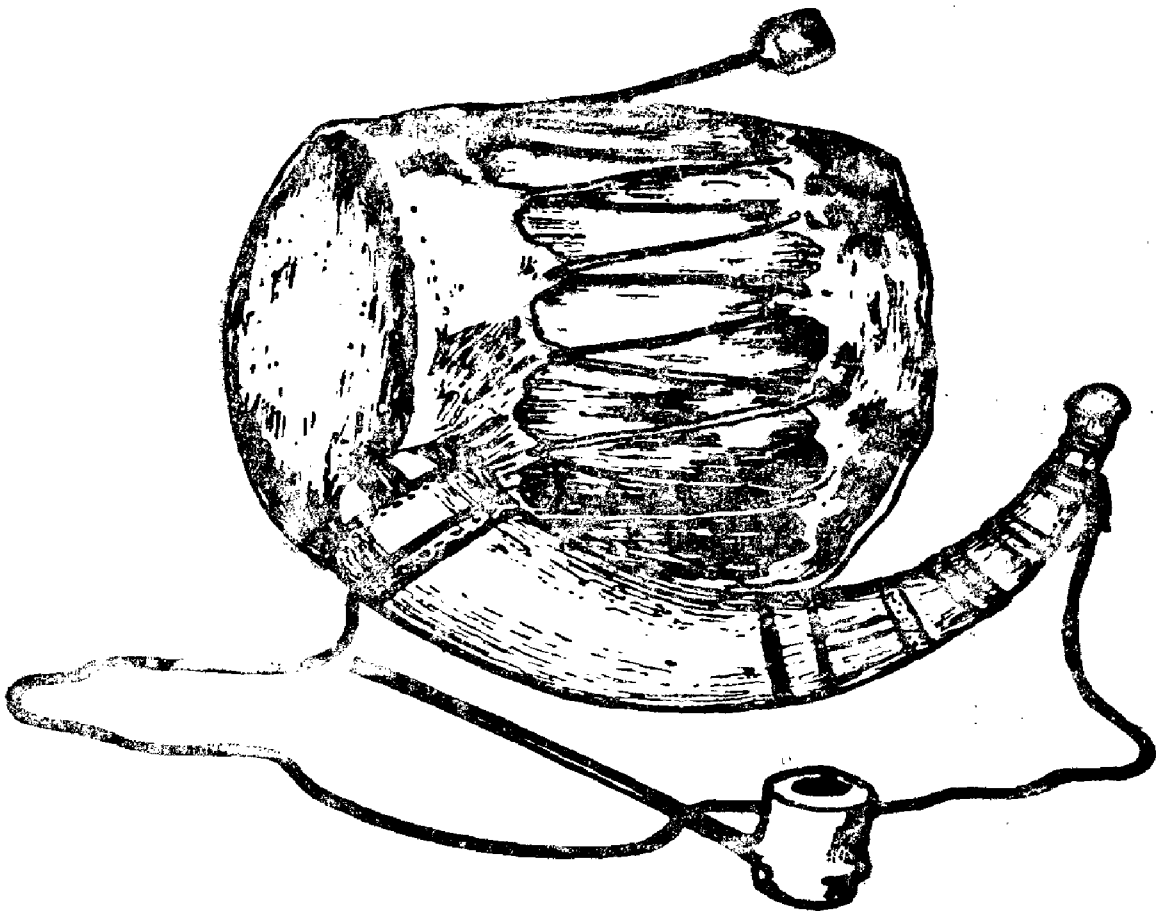
Weaving is the traditional art every Mizo girl has to learn. Here is a Mizo girl on her traditional loom. Mizo women produce clothes (puan) of exquisite beauty



A Mizo mother ginning cotton while the little one rests uneasily on her back. Mizo mothers are hardworking and fully exert themselves in day to day life



A Mizo father takes the little one on a pick-a-back ride. A bamboo cane hat with a leave thatch is a common thing for a Mizo farmer



Traditional drum; gun powder case and tobacco pipe of the Mingo

CHAPTER 9

OUR MAIN ACTIVITIES

In every country now-a-days, great stress is laid on economic development. Information on the socio-economic conditions of a country is essential for planning economic development. The strength of the economically active population, their distribution in the different sectors of the economy, the changes over a period of time are some of the important data required for economic planning. Census is perhaps the most important source of such data. In fact, the detailed information on the working population are one of the most valuable contributions of Censuses.

In the 1981 Census we collected information regarding the economic activity of the People in great detail so that those who use these data have the type of information they want. The economic questions consist of three parts, namely :—

I. Q. 14A Worked any time at all last year ?

Yes

No (H/ST/D/R/B/I/O)

Q. 14B If yes in 14A, did you work for major part of last year ?

Yes (1)/No (2)

II. Q. 15A Main activity last year ?

Yes in 14B (C/AL/HHI/OW)*

No in 14B (H/ST/D/R/B/I/O)

Q. 15B 14B Yes—Any other work any time last year ?

Yes (C/AL/HHI/OW)/No

14B No—Work done any time last year ? (C/AL/HHI/OW)

III. Q. 16 If No in 14A or 14B, seeking/available for work ? Yes (1) No. (2)

Illustration :

C.—Cultivator, AL.—Agricultural Labourer, HHI—Household Industry,
OW—other work.

H.—Household duties, ST.—Students, dependent, R—Retired persons
or Rentiers.

B.—Beggars, I—Inmates of Institution, O—Other non-workers.

These questions were canvassed for every person, irrespective of age or sex. Every person was asked Question 14A, including the very young or very old and the answer to this question was filled in. The other questions have been filled in the case of those to whom they were applicable. The instructions for filling these questions were as follows :

These questions were meant to get details of the work done by the people with reference to last year. We may, therefore, first consider what is meant by 'work' and what the 'reference period' is.

Definition of Work :

Work may be defined as participation in any economically productive activity. Such participation may be physical or mental in nature. Work involves not only actual work but also effective supervision and direction of work.

Reference period :

In all the questions, the reference period is the one year preceding the date of enumeration. Certain types of work such as agriculture, household industry like gur making, etc., are carried on either throughout the year or only during certain seasons or parts of the year, depending on the local circumstances. In such cases what we are concerned with is the broad time-span of the agriculture seasons preceding the enumeration.

There should be no confusion regarding these questions. What we are trying to find out is the number of workers and since workers can be full-time workers or seasonal workers or marginal workers, it is necessary to collect data that will give us the correct picture. This is what Questions 14A and 14B and Questions 15A and 15B seek to do.

Question 14A seeks to find out if a person has done any work at all during the last year or whether he or she did not work at all and if it is the latter, how the person spent his/her time as a non-worker. Then Question 14B seeks to find out who among the persons returning 'Yes' in Question 14A had worked for the major part of the year. By major part of the year, it is intended to find out how many had worked for 183 days or more or in other words, worked for 6 months or more. Those who have worked for 183 days or more, will answer 'Yes' for Question 14B. But those who have worked for less than six months or 183 days will say 'No'. Question

15A seeks to elicit information on the main activity of the workers in Question 14B. It will also elicit information about the main activity of the 'marginal workers' covered in Question 14B.

The person may have worked for six months or 183 days or more in more than one activity. For example he/she may have worked for 3 months in cultivation, one month in gur making and 3 months as an agricultural labourer. In Question 15A, he/she is required to indicate which of these three activities according to him/her was his/her main activity, i.e. in which capacity he/she spent more time. In the instant case since the person has spent three months each in cultivation and as agricultural labourer the choice as to which of these two would be his/her main activity should be left to him/her.

In Question 15B, details of secondary work or marginal work are sought to be obtained. Those who have worked for the major part of the year, may have had secondary work and this should be entered in Question 15B. Those who have not worked for the major part of the year must have done some marginal work and these details will be entered in Question 15B. It is important that probing questions are asked to elicit correct information in this question.

In Question 16, it is proposed to ask all persons returning 'No' in question 14A, i.e., H/ST/D/R/B/I/O in Question 14A or 'No' in Question 14B whether he or she has been seeking work or is available for work.

It will thus be seen that these questions on economic aspects have been so designed as to identify all the workers, regular or seasonal, and non-workers with reference to the activities during the last one year prior to the date of enumeration. It is very important to remember that the period referred to in Questions 14A, 14B, 15A and 15B is one year preceding the enumeration. Thus, if in some areas, a person has been a cultivator or an agricultural labourer, or has worked in an industry, etc., only in one season, i.e., less than 6 months/183 days, he/she is not to be treated as a worker for Question 14B. His/her economic activity will be reflected in Question 15B. Thus all those returning 'Yes' in Question 14A must be noted as 'Yes' in Question 14B or in Question 15B or both.

Certain important points that need special emphasis are the following and these should be kept in mind.

- (i) A person who normally works but has been absent from work during the reference period on account of illness, holiday, temporary closure, strike, etc., must be treated as engaged in the work he/she would otherwise have been doing but for his/her temporary absence.
- (ii) Persons under training such as apprentices, with or without stipends or wages, should be treated as workers.
- (iii) A person who has merely been offered work but has not actually joined yet, should not be treated as engaged in this work.
- (iv) A man or woman who is engaged primarily in household duties such as cooking for own household or performing one's own household duties or a boy or a girl who is primarily a student, even if such a person helps in the family economic activity but not as a full time worker should not be treated as a worker for Question 14B, even though he or she may be recorded as 'Yes' in Question 14A. On the other hand, if a person is primarily engaged in some economic activity for major part of the year but at the same time does also attend to some household chores or attends a night school, etc., he or she would be treated basically as a worker for Question 14B and categorised suitably in Question 15A.
- (v) A person who merely receives an income, such as a rent receiver or a pensioner who does not have to work for receiving the income, will not be treated as economic activity. Similarly, beggars, pensioners, receivers of agricultural or non-agricultural royalty or of rents or dividends who may be earning an income but who are not participating in any productive work should not be treated as working unless they also work in cultivation industry, trade, profession, business or commerce.
- (vi) An adult woman who is engaged in household duties but doing no other productive work to augment the family's resources should not be considered as working for purpose of this question. If, however, in addition to her household work she engages herself in work, such as rice pounding for sale or wages, or in domestic services for wages for other or minding

cattle for wages or selling firewood or making and selling cowdung cake or grass etc., or any other work like cultivation, etc., she should be treated as working under Question 14A.

- (vii) A man or a woman who is doing household duties may be producing or making something only for the domestic consumption of the household and not for sale. Such a person is not a worker, even though from his or her point of view the activity is productive.
- (viii) For an undertrial prisoner enumerated in a jail, he/she should be recorded for the work he/she was doing before he/she was apprehended. Similarly, for a person temporarily in a hospital or similar institutional he/she should be recorded for the kind of work he/she was doing before he/she was admitted into hospital or institution. But for a convict in a prison or for long-term inmates of penal or charitable or mental institutions, the persons's previous work should not be recorded, but 'I' should be recorded. A question arises as to what should be deemed to be long-term. For census purposes, inmates of penal or charitable or mental institutions if detained for 6 months or more should be recorded as 'I'.
- (ix) A full-time public or social service worker who is actively engaged in public service activity of a full-time political worker who is also actively engaged in furthering the political activity of his/her party will be recorded as a worker and entered accordingly. Such persons will include members of Parliament, State Legislatures, Local authorities, etc.

We know that India is a developing country and the low percentage of workers to the total population is an index thereof. According to 1981 Census, the percentage of workers to the total population was only 33.45. In developing countries, the proportion of economically active population is often more than 40 per cent.

Among the States, Nagaland has the highest percentage of workers to the State total population having 47.53 per cent. The Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh has 49.61 per cent. But we cannot say that these two parts of the country are economically advanced. The rise in percentage of workers depends on the way of living of the people and the social customs of

tribal people. Kerala is the most advanced State in our country so far as the rate of literacy is concerned, but its work participation rate is comparatively low at 26.68 per cent. Hence the rate of participation in work depends on many factors like natural resources of the State, kinds of occupations available, whether labour intensive or not and the degree of unemployment and under-employment prevailing in the State. State like West Bengal has as low as 28.26 per cent of active workers to the total population of the state. In Haryana and Punjab, 28.35 per cent and 29.35 per cent respectively of the population of the respective States are Workers.

In 1981 Census, workers were broadly classified into Cultivators, Agricultural Labourers and those engaged in Household Industry and Other Works in the PCA while in other tables these were classified into 9 industrial categories as follows :—

- (1) Cultivators
- (2) Agricultural Labourers
- (3) Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantation, Orchards and Allied Activities
- (4) Mining and Quarrying
- (5) Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs
(a) Household Industry (b) Other than household Industry
- (6) Construction
- (7) Trade and Commerce
- (8) Transport, Storage and Communication
- (9) Other Services.

All the non-workers are grouped together for purpose of this classification, although these non-workers have been categorised as full time students, those attending to household duties, dependents and infants, retired persons to independent means, beggars and vagrants, inmates of Institutions, such as mental and charitable institutions and others.

Of the total population of 493,757 in Mizoram, 224,367 are workers. Thus 45.44 per cent of the total population of our State are workers and the remaining 54.56 per cent are non-workers. In other words, of every ten persons in the State approximately five persons produce goods and services and

the remaining 5 persons depend on them. The following Table represents the figures of workers and non-workers for the state and the districts of Mizoram, as per 1981 Census :

TABLE 9.1

Workers and non-workers in Mizoram by districts at 1981 Census and their proportion to total population

State/District	Total Population	Total Workers- Main Workers + Marginal Workers	Total Non-Workers	Percentage of workers and non-workers to total population	
				Workers	Non-Workers
1	2	3	4	5	6
Mizoram . . .	4,93,757	2,24,367	2,69,390	45.44	54.56
Aizawl District . .	3,40,826	1,54,823	1,86,003	45.43	54.57
Lunglei District . .	86,511	38,139	48,372	44.09	55.91
Chhimituipyu District	66,420	31,405	35,015	47.28	52.72

Majority of our Workers are men. 52.54 per cent of Mizoram's menfolk are workers. The share of women in the field of work is smaller. Only 37.72 per cent of the total women are Workers. This however, does not mean that some of our women do not make any contribution to the economy. We know that there are many women particularly in the rural areas, who work in the field or participate in the household industries in addition to their household work. In rural areas women are also working in jhum cultivation, and the percentage of women workers to the total population is higher in rural than in urban areas.

If we consider the rural and urban areas separately we notice that the proportion of workers in the Rural population is higher than the proportion in Urban areas. 80.70 per cent of the Rural population are workers against 19.30 per cent in the Urban population. The same pattern of higher proportion of workers in Rural areas as compared to urban areas is visible in respect of the male population. The pattern is however, the same for the female population also.

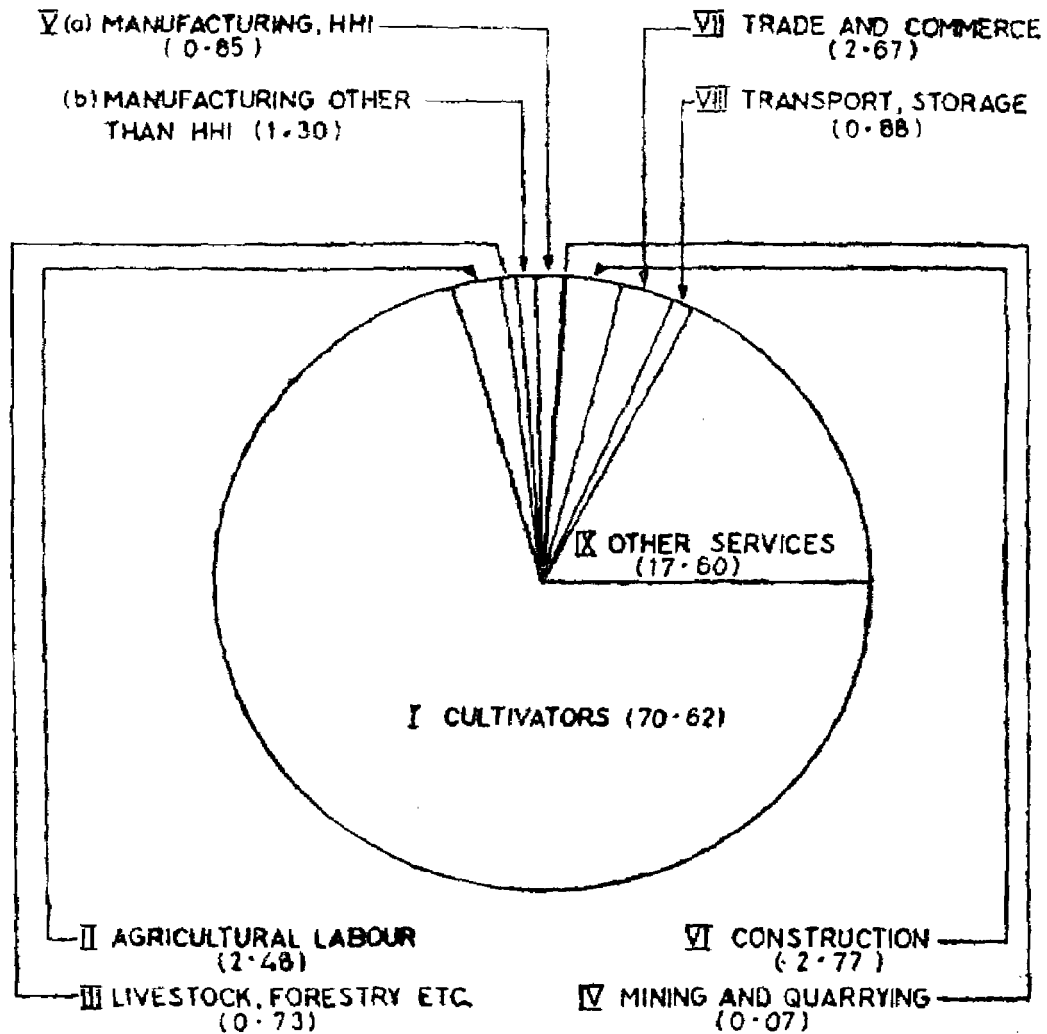
Proportion of workers among women in urban areas is smaller than that for men while in rural areas the pattern is otherwise. The relevant figures are presented in the following table :

TABLE 9.2

Total population of Mizoram by Rural / Urban and by sex and by workers and Non-workers and their proportions.

Particulars of population	Persons Male Female	Total Number			Proportion (Per cent) of workers and non-workers				
		Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban		
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total Population	.	.	.	493,757	371,943	121,814	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Persons								
	Male			257,239	192,874	64,365	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Female			236,518	179,069	57,449	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total Workers	.	.	.	224,367	181,059	43,308	45.44	80.70	19.30
	Persons								
Main Workers	.	.	.	135,141	104,402	30,739	52.54	77.23	22.75
(+ Marginal Workers)				89,226	76,657	12,569	37.72	85.91	14.09
Total Non-Workers	.	.	.	269,390	190,884	78,506	54.56	70.86	29.14
	Persons								
	Male			122,098	88,472	33,626	47.46	72.46	27.54
	Female			147,292	102,412	44,880	62.28	69.53	30.47

CENSUS OF INDIA 1961, MIZORAM

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS
BY INDUSTRIAL CATEGORY

Mizoram being a tribal State and the mainstay of the people being cultivation, both the sexes work equally in their respective fields. Besides, there is no division of labour since the question of the specialisation in a particular trade does not arise due to absence of Industries, Mining and Quarrying. That is why the participation rate of workers is comparatively high. The following table gives us the percentage distribution of workers and non-workers (Sex-wise) in Mizoram at 1971 and 1981 Census.

TABLE 9.3

Percentage distribution of workers & non-workers in Mizoram at 1971 and 1981 Censuses by sex

Year	Total		Males		Females	
	Workers	Non-Workers	Workers	Non-Workers	Workers	Non-Workers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1971	45.61	54.39	57.95	45.90	42.05	54.10
1981	45.44	54.56	52.54	47.46	37.72	62.28

A tribal economy cannot support a large number of dependents. Therefore, the participation rate in the working force is very high in tribal societies. Unlike other States in India, in Mizoram ownership of land for cultivation lies with the people and the government does not settle land for such purposes. All the cultivators are concentrated in rural areas where both males and females work together equally. Therefore, there is not much difference in the work participation rates between the two sexes. However, in urban areas people are working in various sectors as teachers in Schools and Colleges, as employees in shops, in government services, and as skilled labourers etc. Generally people in urban areas are not engaged in cultivation. The house-wives in the towns do not participate in cultivation work as in the case of rural areas. There is no discrimination or distinction for male and female to be employed in government offices or private under-takings. Generally, more female teachers are found in elementary Schools. But the number of female teachers are less in higher educational institutions.

The following Table gives the percentage distribution of workers to total workers in all Industrial Categories in Mizoram, as per 1981 Census. The distribution of workers in different industrial categories is also shown in the Pie diagram (as shown in the opposite page).

TABLE 9.4

Proportion of workers engaged in different industrial categories by rural or urban. (as per 1981 Census)

Categories of Workers	Percentage of workers in the category to total workers in		
	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
1. Cultivator	70.62	82.85	20.53
2. Agricultural Labourer	2.48	1.32	7.26
3. Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting & Plantations, Orchards and Allied Activities	0.73	0.54	1.52
4. Mining and Quarrying	0.07	0.01	0.30
5. Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing & Repair—			
(a) Household Industries	0.85	0.44	2.54
(b) Other than Household Industry	1.30	0.42	4.91
6. Construction	2.77	2.06	5.72
7. Trade and Commerce	2.67	0.93	9.79
8. Transport, Storage and Communication	0.88	0.36	3.03 ⁶
9. Other Services	17.60	11.07	44.3

Mizoram being a tribal State, Cultivators constitute 70.62 per cent of the total working population. Though the census of 1981 divided the workers into nine divisions, Mizoram does not provide the workers with opportunities in other occupations except in cultivation and other services. The definition of cultivator used in Census is as follows:—

Cultivator

“For purposes of the census a person is working as Cultivator if he or she is engaged either as employer, single worker of family worker in cultivation of land owned or held from Government or held from private persons or institutions for payment in money, kind or share. Cultivation includes supervision or direction of cultivation.

A person who has given out his/her land to another person or persons for cultivation for money kind or share of crop and who does not even supervise or direct cultivation of land, will

not be treated as cultivator. Similarly, a person working in another person's land for wages in cash or kind or a combination of both (agricultural labourer) will not be treated as cultivator in this question.

Cultivation involves ploughing, sowing and harvesting and production of cereals and millet crops such as wheat, paddy, jowar, bajra, ragi etc., and other crops such as sugarcane, ground-nuts, tapioca, etc., and pulses, raw jute and kindred fibre crop, cotton, etc., and does not include fruit growing, vegetable growing or keeping orchards or groves or working of plantations like tea, coffee, rubber, cinchona and other medicinal plantations".

Generally, in Mizoram shifting cultivation is in practice. Jhuming or shifting cultivation is a way of life of the tribals in Mizoram. It is not only a source of livelihood but also inextricably woven into their social, cultural and religious milieu. The feature of jhum cultivation is that the cultivation is done on hill slopes and fire is used for clearing the cut forests. Next year jhum cultivator abandons this land and moves to another place of jhum land. A mixed and variety of crops are grown by jhum cultivators. In Mizoram, land is a common property of the village or belongs to the government and individuals do not have separate holdings. However, of late, lands are assigned to individuals so as to organise terrace farming and orchard plantations. The people of Mizoram have taken to this system because of the conditions of geography and their social tradition. No doubt jhum cultivation at times was useful and advantageous. But due to repeated shifting of land for jhum, the practice has now become uneconomic and devastating. Thus the magnitude of the problem is vast and complex. The system of jhum cultivation has been causing considerable damage to ecology in general and productivity of land in particular. When the lands gradually become eroded over a period of time, he moves out to 'Pasture new' or becomes a daily labourer. Not only that jhum cultivator becomes poorer and poorer, but also the entire forests would vanish in the State if the practice continues at the present rate.

In this territory, Agricultural Labourers are few (2.48 per cent) in the total working population. Agricultural labourer is defined in census as follows :—

Agricultural labourer :

"A person who works in another person's land for wages in money, kind or share should be regarded as an agricultural labourer. He or she has no risk in the cultivation but he/she

merely works in another person's land for wages. An agricultural labourer has no right of lease or contract on land on which he/she works".

'Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations and Orchards' are some of the allied activities of the people of Mizoram. Every household keeps some domestic animals but not for commercial purposes. Plantation and Orchards are yet to be developed. Only 0.73 per cent of the working population are returned in this category in Mizoram.

'Mining and quarrying' are little known to the Mizo. It reflects the relative scarcity of known deposits of profitable minerals as well as the insufficiency of the organised enterprise. There are no Coal mines in this State, on the other hand stone quarries are found in very few places. Only 0.07 per cent of the working population constitute workers under this category. Under the category of "manufacturing processing, servicing, etc." we find only 0.85 per cent as engaged household industry against 1.30 per cent occupied in other than household industry. Most of the workers in this category are from urban areas.

Under 'construction' are included construction and maintenance of buildings, roads, railways, telephone, telegraphs and other allied activities, and 2.77 per cent of the total working force is engaged in this work, composed of 2.06 per cent of the working population from rural areas and 5.72 per cent from urban areas.

'Trade and Commerce' provided livelihood to 2.67 per cent of the working force in the State. This included the workers in wholesale and retail trade composed of 9.79 per cent of the working urban population and 0.93 per cent of the rural working population. 'Transport, storage and communications' included all other services incidental to transport which absorbed 0.88 per cent of the entire working force in the State. Urban working force dominated with 3.03 per cent of its workers in this category while the rural areas have 0.36 per cent of its work force in this category. The 'other services' constituted 17.60 per cent of the working force in the State which forms the second highest component of working force in the State after cultivation. In the absence of many industrial units in the State, government is the main source which provides employment opportunities to the people. Teachers, doctors, nurses and personnel in all administrative services in government department are included in this category. Besides this, a set of people such as servants, ayahs, barber, washerman and individuals who provide personal services belong to this category. Majority of these workers are concentrated in urban areas.

CHAPTER 10

FERTILITY

Fertility is a measure to indicate the performance of female population in the process of reproductive experiences. This measure is required to plan for the growth of population in any country.

The fertility tables were an innovation in 1971 Census. In the individual slip of 1971 Census, two new questions were canvassed viz., (1) Age at marriage (2) Any child born during the last one year from each currently married woman. Based on these two questions, five tables were produced which showed the distribution of the currently married woman and their related births by present age, age at marriage, educational level and religion. The fertility tables were of immense use to planners and research scholars connected with family welfare.

1981 Census collected data on children ever born and children surviving to each ever married women for the first time, in addition to the questions in 1971 Census. This information is extremely useful in estimating the cumulated fertility as well as child mortality from indirect methods. The questions relating to fertility and migration in 1981 Census, were included in the sample individual slip. The sample individual slip was canvassed in 20% sample of enumeration blocks in all States, except smaller States like Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Manipur, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland and Tripura and the Union Territories where it was canvassed in 100% areas. At the 1971 Census, the fertility tables were produced on the basis at 10 per cent Rural and 20% Urban slips except in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura and the Union Territories where the data were processed on full count.

The Fertility Series table in 1981 Census are based on the response to the questions 5 and 6 of the sample Individual slip. The data have been cross classified by present age of woman, age at marriage, marital status, educational level and occupation.

Indian population growth has been influenced only by its fertility and mortality trends. Inter-State, internal migration also plays a part but this is an area on which we cannot have much data. Though India has a long tradition of civil registration system but the rates derived from these records are not upto

the mark. It is only in the case of highly urbanised areas we have registration data that is good enough. It may be interesting to have some statistics about the fertility regarding the State.

As mentioned earlier, four questions were canvassed relating to fertility in 1981 Census. These related to age at marriage, number of surviving children and number of children ever born and whether any child was born during the last one year. The first three questions were canvassed for all ever married women while the last one was canvassed only in the case of currently married women.

The fertility indicators on the basis of which data is presented are age-specific fertility rate (ASFR), age specific marital fertility rate (ASMFR), General marital fertility rate (GMFR), Total marital fertility rate (TMFR), general fertility rate (GFR), and total fertility rate (TFR) and are based on questions on births during the last year. These terms are defined below :—

- Age-specific Fertility Rate : The average number of children born alive during the last year per woman of a particular age group.
- Age-specific marital Fertility Rate : The average number of children born alive during the last year per married woman of a particular age group.
- General Fertility Rate : Number of children born alive during the last year per 1000 women of child bearing ages. In 1981 tabulation the age group 15-49 years and in 1971 tabulation the age group 13-47 have been considered as child bearing ages.
- General Marital Fertility Rate : The number of children born alive during the last year per 1000 married woman of child bearing ages. In the 1981 tabulation the age group 15-49 and in 1971 tabulation the age group 13-47 have been considered as child bearing ages.
- Total Fertility Rate : Total number of children that would have born alive per women, had the current Schedule of age-specific fertility rates been applicable for the entire reproductive period. It is calculated as the sum of the age specific fertility rates in five year age groups multiplied by five.
- Total Marital Fertility Rate : Total number of children that would have born alive per married woman, had the current Schedule of age-specific marital fertility rates been applicable for the entire reproductive period. It is calculated as the sum of age specific marital fertility rates in five year age group multiplied by five.

The following table gives the age-specific fertility rates and age-specific marital fertility rates, etc. for all religious groups together in the country and Mizoram according to 1981 Census.

TABLE 10.1

Age-specific Fertility rates, G.F.R., T.F.R. at 1981 for India and Mizoram

Area	Age Group	Age specific fertility rate		G.F.R.		T.F.R.	
		India	Mizoram	India	Mizoram	India	Mizoram
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
All Religions	15—19	0.055	0.022	112	116	3.6	4.0
	20—24	0.187	0.154				
	25—29	0.186	0.199				
	30—34	0.137	0.179				
	35—39	0.088	0.137				
	40—44	0.046	0.079				
	45—49	0.021	0.027				

Source:—Part II - Special Report & Tables based on 5% sample Tabulation series—1 India—1981.

From the above table we notice that G.F.R. & T.F.R. are at higher levels in Mizoram than for the country as a whole. Also age-specific fertility rates after the age group of 20—24 are higher in respect of Mizoram than for all India.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN

Number of children ever born should include total number of children that the woman gave birth from the time she got married. If married, more than once, all the children born to her should be ascertained. It also includes all children born alive, even if unfortunate children died later. In order to get the correct picture, it is necessary to count the number of children living at home, those living elsewhere and also those born alive but who are unfortunately not alive now. Even if the child died within a few hours of birth this should be included in the count. Still births i.e., children born without life are not to be included. Great care has been taken to get the correct number of children born to ever married women in census enumeration at 1981 census.

According to 1981 Census in Mizoram total children ever born to 23,238 ever married women were 85,661 in urban areas comprising 43,302 male and 42,359 female children. In rural areas there were 3,13,311 children ever born to 75,721 ever married women comprising 1,60,669 male and 1,52,642 female children. There are all together 98,959 ever married women in Mizoram and the children ever born to them were 3,98,972. The following table gives ever married women by present age and parity and total children ever born to them by sex.

TABLE 10.2
Ever married Women by Present Age, Parity and Total children ever born to them.

Present age	Total ever married women	Parity										Total children ever born		
												Not Stated	Male	Female
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
All Ages .	.	98,959	1,810	13,043	12,152	11,276	50,680	9,997	2,03,971	1,95,001				
Less than 15 .	.	80	19	1	1	..	..	59	2	1				
15—19 .	.	3,373	371	1,266	183	30	3	1,520	880	855				
20—24 .	.	15,115	628	5,581	3,882	1,590	540	2,886	10,422	10,014				
25—29 .	.	16,543	290	2,810	3,750	3,902	4,302	1,490	21,051	20,374				
30—34 .	.	13,134	136	1,036	1,525	2,254	7,384	799	24,807	23,939				
35—39 .	.	10,459	79	553	714	1,014	7,593	506	25,413	24,610				
40—44 .	.	9,117	62	414	529	684	6,965	465	25,472	24,211				
45—49 .	.	7,976	50	316	384	504	7,040	406	24,126	23,028				
50+ .	.	32,026	170	1,049	1,153	1,286	17,520	1,148	71,564	67,734				

Note : "All ages" includes "age not stated".

CHAPTER 11

MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE

Migration :

Migration is an important aspect in the field of population study. Any particular group of people of a country can gain population either by births or in-migration and it can lose by deaths among its residents or by out-migration. Broadly speaking, there are two kind of migrations—a person can move into a particular place from his place of birth for some reason and this is known as 'in-migration'. On the other hand, a person may move outside his place of birth for any reason to another place, and this kind of migration is called as 'out-migration'. Migration is a major factor in changing the size and structure of the population. The migration process affects the areas to which migrants have moved and also areas which they have left.

Till 1961, migration data was presented with reference to the place of birth. If a person was born at a place other than the place of enumeration, he was treated as migrant in Census returns. In censuses upto 1951, a question on birth place was asked. The data presented related to the number of migrants by sex. In 1961 an effort was made to widen the scope of enquiry and collected information on : (1) Birth place, (2) Birth Place (Rural or Urban) and (3) duration of residence, if born elsewhere. But these statistics did not account for the more recent movements of a person. Thus a person who had migrated elsewhere for all practical purposes and returned to the place of birth during the period of enumeration was treated as non-migrant.

In 1971 census migration, data were collected for the first time on the basis at place of last residence in addition to the question of birth place. In 1981 census, the scope of enquiry on migration has been further widened by collecting information on reasons for migration, from place of last residence in addition to the enquiries made in 1971 census.

Till 1961, data on migration were based on birth place. However, in 1971 census all migration tables were based on place of last residence. In 1981 census also, all migration

tables are based on place of last residence. The data on migration in 1981 census have been collected through the individual slip (sample) canvassed in all areas of Mizoram. The following questions relating to migration were put to the respondents through the Individual slip (Sample) at the 1981 census :—

- Q.1 BIRTH PLACE
- (a) Place of Birth
 - (b) Rural/Urban
 - (c) District
 - (d) State/Country
- Q.2 LAST RESIDENCE
- (a) Place of Last Residence
 - (b) Rural/Urban
 - (c) District
 - (d) State/Country
- Q.3 Reasons for migration from place of last residence.
- (a) Employment, (b) Education (c) Family Moved
 - (d) Marriage (e) Others.

All the migrants have not moved with the same reason, but whatever may be the reason of movement, they are all migrants. A person will have moved for employment in the following cases (a) he or she might have moved in search of job or hoping to get a job, (b) since he/she has got a job, one has to move to take up the job, (c) having already got a job, he/she has moved because of a transfer or even on promotion.

A person can be said to have moved for educational purposes if he/she has moved to the place of enumeration from his/her place of last residence for joining a School/College or any other type of educational institution either for the first time or for continuing his/her studies. In this case a person may have moved with all other family members, and the reason for such migration of other members of the family will be 'family moved'. The reason 'family moved' will refer to the cases where entire family moved. Such cases will come up if the head of the household or the person on whom the family is dependent has moved due to any reason such as transfer, etc. There are cases where one or more members of the family move along with the person who has moved in search of employment or education or for other reasons. While the person who has moved

for a particular reason, the other members who moved along with that person may be treated as migrated due to 'family' moved. A person who is getting married, say a girl, who is in Aizawl may get married to a boy who is living in Lunglei District. In this case, the reason for migration of the girl who is married will be 'Marriage'.

Besides these, there may be a person who had migrated for reason not covered by the above reasons. Such cases are classified as 'Others'. This will include all other reasons for migration not covered by Employment, Education, Family moved and Marriage. This may include cases like movement due to retirement, movement for economic reason such as setting up of shops, starting of a business, etc.

As per 1981 census in Mizoram we have as many as 24,994 persons classified by place of birth who were born outside Mizoram but within the country. These persons comprised 18,008 males and 6,986 females respectively. There are 460,219 persons comprising 234,158 males and 226,061 females born in the State of Mizoram. The persons who were born in Mizoram may be classified according to the district they belonged. We have 275,846 persons of whom 142,559 males and 133,287 females were born in place of enumeration. This means that non-migrant persons are those living at the place of birth. There are also others born elsewhere in the district of enumeration or such persons are 82,707 in number. We have 16,819 persons comprising 8,892 males and 7,927 females in this category. 8,544 persons are classified by place of birth outside India. These persons were born in the countries in Asia beyond India including U.S.S.R. and only one person was born in Countries in Europe (excluding U.S.S.R. and U.K.). There is one person belonging to unclassifiable category of place of birth who is enumerated in Mizoram. The following table gives the details of population enumerated in Mizoram according to place of birth at 1981 Census.

TABLE 11.1
Population classified by place of birth in Mizoram at 1981 census.

Birth place	Total	Male	Female
	Rural Urban		
1	2	3	4
1. Within the state of Enumeration . . .	Total	234,158	226,061
	Rural	201,849	194,822
	Urban	32,027	30,977

TABLE 11.1—*contd.*

	1	2	3	4
2. Outside the State but within the country		Total	18,008	6,986
		Rural	13,262	4,904
		Urban	4,405	1,944
3. Born in Countries in Asia beyond India (including U.S.S.R.)		Total	5,071	3,471
		Rural	..	..
		Urban	..	..
4. Countries in Europe (excluding U.S.S.R. and U.K.)			1	..
Unclassifiable			1	..

From the above table we can see that internal migration is much higher than International Migration. According to the 1981 Census there are 8,544 persons born in other countries while 209,367 persons born in the country but not born in the place of enumeration. The people are migrating within the country from different states with different purposes. Most of the people who were migrated to India were generally migrated due to the reason 'family moved'.

There are two factors for the growth of population in the State as well as in the Country. Firstly population increases when births exceed deaths and such increase is called natural increase. Secondly growth of population of a country may increase when there is in-migration into it. Neither many people migrate to our Country from abroad nor leave our country. Hence international migration does not play any significant role in determining the size of the population of our country.

In Mizoram the population growth rate is 48.55 percent in 71-81 while this was 24.92 per cent in 61-71. It may be noticed here that the growth rate at 71-81 is the highest looking from the past decades. During the decade of 1951-1961 the decennial population growth rate is 35.61 per cent. The decennial population growth rate of 1961-1971 decade was lower than that of 1951-1961. It may be due to 1966 political disturbances in Mizoram, due to which many young people had to leave their homes and join underground movement. They were not present at the time of counting in census enumeration in 1971. In addition to this, many people had to leave Mizoram to the neighbouring States like Assam, Meghalaya, etc. even to Burma for security reasons. Therefore, the decade of 1961-1971

experienced lower growth rate than 1951-1961. In 1971-1981 we have seen the growth rate has been very high and almost double to the previous decade. The higher growth rate in 1971-81, may be due to many reasons. The situation in the State became peaceful and many people who went out to other states as mentioned above returned to their respective homes. Secondly, it may be also be that many 'Chakma' population has been migrating to Mizoram from Bangladesh and settled in different parts of Mizoram mostly in Chhimtuipui district. Thirdly, birth rate was higher than death rate during this decade. However, it may be that Migration is not the real reason for the growth of population in Mizoram but it forms one of the factors for the growth of population.

In Mizoram we have 101,017 persons migrated from Rural areas and 19,128 from Urban areas by place of last residence (having duration of residence of 0-9 years at Mizoram). Besides these we have 2,395 Urban migrants from outside India. The following tables illustrates the details :

TABLE 11.2

Migrants from other States to Mizoram and from within who have completed 0- 9 years of duration as per 1981 Census.

Last Residence	Migration from (as per duration of residence 0- 9 years in the place of enumeration)	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
All Migrant	101,017	19,128
1. Andhra Pradesh	31	86
2. Assam	2,863	1,845
3. Bihar	1,745	359
4. Gujarat	5	6
5. Haryana	56	39
6. Himachal Pradesh	33	16
7. Jammu & Kashmir	19	40
8. Karnataka	10	31
9. Madhya Pradesh	24	35
10. Kerala	220	181
11. Maharashtra	16	49

TABLE 11.2—*contd.*

1	2	3
12. Manipur	1,110	294
13. Meghalaya	124	1,161
14. Nagaland	53	135
15. Orissa	22	107
16. Punjab	46	41
17. Rajasthan	51	79
18. Sikkim	3	13
19. Tamil Nadu	40	70
20. Tripura	2,057	320
21. Uttar Pradesh	285	194
22. West Bengal	86	172
23. Andaman and Nicobar Island	12	19
24. Arunachal Pradesh	49	32
25. Chandigarh	11	13
26. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	..	..
27. Delhi	12	649
28. Goa, Daman and Diu	..	4
29. Lakshadweep	2	..
30. Mizoram (within state)	92,030	13,034
31. Pondicherry	2	4
Outside India	..	2,395

From the above table, there are altogether 4,708 persons migrating from Assam to Mizoram who have completed 0-9 years duration of stay at Mizoram. Among those persons 2,863 are from Rural areas and the other 1,845 were from Urban areas. Mizoram has large number of migrants from Assam, Tripura, Bihar and Manipur. In Mizoram itself we have 92030 persons have moved to other places from their last residence in Rural areas and 13,034 persons moved from urban areas (as place of last residence) to other areas.

CHAPTER 12

SUMMING UP

Mizoram is situated in the north-eastern corner of India. It is flanked by Bangladesh and Tripura in the West and Burma in the East and South. In the North it has boundary with Manipur and Cachar District of Assam. It has an area of 21081 Sq. kms.

Mizoram was formerly known as 'Mizo Hills' District. Still earlier it was known as 'Lushai Hills'. In local language the area is called 'Mizoram' the land of Mizo which has now become its Official name. In 1954 by an Act of the Parliament the name of the district which was part of Assam, was changed from 'Lushai Hills' district to 'Mizo Hills' district. It continued to be part of Assam till January, 1972. In 1972 on the 21st of January, 'Mizo Hills' district was made a Union Territory with the name Mizoram. On February 20, 1987 the then Union Territory was accorded the status of State and became the 23rd State of the India Union.

'Mizo' in 'Lushai' language means 'Man of the Hills' or 'Highlander'. Now the word 'Mizo' embraces all the Lushai and akin tribes. It also includes such tribe as 'Pawi' who have taken up 'Lushai' as their language. Many other clans and sub-tribes like Hmar, Ralte, etc. have given up their language and taken up 'Lushai' language now known as 'Mizo' language.

'Mizo' belong to Mongolian race. The Mizo moved down from Burma in the early 18th century in scattered bands and displaced and in some cases absorbed the aboriginals. The Mizo emigration was part of the great wave of the Mongolian race spilling over into eastern and southern Asia centuries ago. Folklore say that they were inhabitants of Shan State in Burma and they left their home because of great famine. Legends say that the Mizo came from Chhinlung i.e., a hole under the rock. After a great darkness and catastrophe the ancestors of the Mizo are said to have come out of this hole. The history of Mizo can be traced to their settlement in Burma. The Mizo were in the Chin Hills in Burma from 1400 A.D. to 1700 A.D. There were ten such tribes in Burma and one of these tribes moved further west. This was 'Lushai' Tribe. In Burmese language 'LU' means tribe and 'SE' means 'ten' Mizo acquired the institution of Chieftain while they were

moving towards west. As feuds between clans became very common, the chiefs came up to lead the people. The first Chief is known to be a 'Lushai' called Zahmuaka, and through his six sons, six ruling Lushai clans came into existence. A chief called Sailova set the tradition of Sailo chiefs who came to rule in the northern part of the hills. The chiefs were constantly having feuds with one another. In 1880 a war broke out between the north and the south which continued for a few years. Similarly, there was a war between the East and the West. Because of this constant State of War between different clans and different chiefs, the villages were always situated in the most strategic position on hill tops and were stocked by logs.

In their old religious tenets, the Mizos believe in one supreme being called 'Pathian' who is the overlord of men, and the 'Ramhuai' (demons) who is said to be inhabited the streams, the hills and the trees. To please 'Ramhuai' they offered sacrifice. At present most of the Mizo belong to Christianity. The first Christian Missionary visited Mizoram in 1891, almost immediately with the setting up of administration and military Headquarters in Aizawl. By hard working of the Christian Missionaries, almost all the Mizo have joined Christianity and at present 83.81 per cent to total population are Christian.

According to 1981 census, the total population of Mizoram is 493,757 in which the men have a little edge over women being 919 females per 1000 males. The density of population is low, which is only 23 per sq.km. while all India figure is 216 per Sq.km. But the growth rate of population in Mizoram is high. During the period 1951-1961 the growth rate was 35.61 per cent; but during 1961-1971 it was only 24.93 per cent. The decline during the period of 1961-1971 was mainly due to political disturbances when lots of out-migration took place. However, during 1971-1981 the population growth rate has been 48.55 per cent.

The percentage of Urban population in Mizoram is not very high. The population living in six towns viz., Aizawl, Kolasib, Serchhip, Champhai, Lunglei, and Saiha account for 24.67 per cent of the total population of Mizoram. The population in the towns viz., Aizawl and Lunglei has increased much during 1971-1981 because of high influx of population from village during the disturbances. Many who took temporary shelter in the towns preferred to stay on. Because of this unemployment problem has become very acute. Sanitation, traffic regulation, water supply, etc., have also deteriorated in Aizawl, the capital city of Mizoram.

The people in Mizoram have high literacy rate. In the 1981 census the State has literacy percentage of 59.88. Amongst men this percentage is 64.46 while amongst women it is 54.46 per cent. All children of school going age go to schools.

The Mizo are hard working people. Majority of them are cultivators. The pattern of employment has not changed much during the last decade. In 1981, 70.62 per cent of the main workers are cultivators, 2.48 per cent are agricultural labourers, and 26.03 percent are 'other workers' while only 0.85 per cent are in household industry. According to 1971 census, 83.53 per cent of the total working population were cultivators 0.37 per cent were agricultural labourers and 16.10 per cent were 'other workers'. The proportion of women workers in the population is 32.33 per cent at 1981. All women in the rural areas work with their men-folk in jhum cultivation.

Mizoram has a pleasant climate. It is generally cool in summer and not very cool in winter. In winter the temperature varies from 11°C to 24°C and in summer it is between 18°C to 29°C. As the climate on the hill tops is much better than that in the valley which is hot and humid, the Mizo prefer to have their villages on the top of the hills. The area is under the direct influence of the monsoon. It rains heavily from May to September and average rainfall is 254 c.m. per year. The southern part of Mizoram is more rainy than the northern part of the State.

The winter is very pleasant. It is rain free. Mizoram has great natural beauty and is rich in fauna and flora. The forest-clad mountains covered with bamboos, wild banana trees and tropical trees festooned with wild creepers present an enchanting landscape. Many wild animals and birds are found in Mizoram.

During the British period the administration of Mizoram which was known as Lushai Hills, was run by the Superintendent and his Assistant through the village Chiefs and the Circle Interpreter. But the post of Chieftain was abolished in 1955 by an Act of the Government of Assam, after the constitution of India came into force in 1951 and the administration of Lushai Hills was brought under the perview of the Assam Government.